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A time-dependent formulation of multi-reference perturbation theory

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We discuss the time-dependent formulation of perturbation theory in the context of the interacting zeroth-order Hamiltonians that appear in multi-reference situations. As an example, we present a time-dependent formulation and implementation of second-order n -electron valence perturbation theory. The resulting time-dependent n -electron valence second-order perturbation theory (t-NEVPT2) method yields the fully uncontracted n -electron valence perturbation wavefunction and energy, but has a lower computational scaling than the usual contracted variants, and also avoids the construction of high-order density matrices and the diagonalization of metrics. We present results of t-NEVPT2 for the water, nitrogen, carbon, and chromium molecules and outline directions for the future. © 2016 AIP Publishing LLC. [<http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4941606>]

I. INTRODUCTION

A standard strategy in the quantum chemistry of strongly correlated systems is to first compute an approximate zeroth-order wavefunction within an active space of frontier molecular orbitals.^{1–9} The description of the remaining correlation outside of the active space is then the purview of multi-reference dynamic correlation theories.^{10–38} In principle, it is possible to directly extend single-reference dynamic correlation theories to the multi-reference setting. However, several complications arise. First, the dimension of the space in which the perturbed first-order wavefunction resides is much larger in the multi-reference case: $\sim O(N_{det} \times N_{ext}^2)$, where N_{det} is the dimension of the active Hilbert space, and N_{ext} is the number of external orbitals. Thus, explicitly representing a general first-order wavefunction is costly. Second, the starting zeroth-order wavefunction is no longer an eigenstate of a one-electron Hamiltonian, but rather an interacting Hamiltonian. This means that functions of the zeroth-order Hamiltonian, such as the resolvent operator in perturbation theory, are not known in explicit computational form. Third, the standard Wick's theorem, which reduces expectation values of fermionic operator strings to products of single-particle density matrices, does not apply.³⁹ This leads to the need to compute expensive high-order density matrices. It is common to circumvent these complications by introducing additional approximations which are not used in the single-reference setting. Some of these are internally contracted wavefunctions,^{22,25,26} alternative zeroth-order Hamiltonians,^{23,40} and approximations to high-order density matrices.^{27,30,41} While enormously useful, these approximations can lead to new problems of their own, such as intruder states associated with the choice of zeroth-order Hamiltonian or metric instabilities associated with internal contraction.^{42–45}

In this work, we show that using a time-dependent formulation ameliorates the complexity of the multi-

reference dynamic correlation framework, without the need to introduce additional approximations. As an example, we derive and implement the time-dependent n -electron valence second-order perturbation theory (t-NEVPT2). The resulting theory, although equivalent to the fully *uncontracted* n -electron valence perturbation theory (NEVPT),^{25,26} exhibits a lower computational scaling than the common contracted approximations for large active spaces and avoids the need to diagonalize metric matrices or compute four-particle density matrices. Since the problem is time-independent, introducing time-dependence may also be viewed as a numerical trick equivalent to the well-known Laplace transformation of perturbation theory.^{46,47} However, because the resolvent operator is not known explicitly for an interacting Hamiltonian, while time-evolution with the same Hamiltonian is a relatively simple operation, the advantages of the Laplace transform are greater in the multi-reference as compared to single-reference setting.

In Section II, we review time-independent and time-dependent many-body perturbation theories, taking note of the relevant considerations for the multi-reference setting. In Section III, we describe the efficient computational implementation of the time-dependent second-order n -electron valence perturbation theory. In Sections IV and V, we describe the computational details and investigate the performance of t-NEVPT2 for a number of multi-reference problems with significant dynamic correlation: (i) the bond dissociation in H₂O and N₂; (ii) the ground and excited states in C₂; and (iii) the potential energy curve of the chromium dimer. Finally, in Section VI, we present our conclusions and future outlook for the formulation.

II. THEORY

A. Overview of time-independent perturbation theory

We begin with a brief overview of time-independent perturbation theory for multi-reference problems. We define the electronic Hamiltonian in second-quantized form as

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$$\hat{H} = \sum_{pq} h_p^q a_p^\dagger a_q + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{pqrs} v_{pq}^{rs} a_p^\dagger a_q^\dagger a_s a_r, \quad (1)$$

where h_p^q and v_{pq}^{rs} are the usual one- and antisymmetrized two-electron integrals,

$$h_p^q = \langle \psi_p(1) | \hat{h} | \psi_q(1) \rangle, \quad v_{pq}^{rs} = g_{pq}^{rs} - g_{pq}^{sr}, \quad (2)$$

$$g_{pq}^{rs} = \langle \psi_p(1) \psi_q(2) | \frac{1}{r_{12}} | \psi_r(1) \psi_s(2) \rangle. \quad (3)$$

Indices p, q, r, s run over the entire spin-orbital basis ψ_p . To formulate multi-reference dynamic correlation theories, we partition the spin-orbitals into three sets: (i) *core* (doubly occupied) with indices i, j, k, l ; (ii) *active* with indices u, v, w, x, y, z ; and (iii) *external* (unoccupied) with indices a, b, c, d (Figure 1).

The Hamiltonian can be divided into two parts,

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_{act} + \hat{H}_{nact}, \quad (4)$$

where $\hat{H}_{nact}$ includes terms involving the core or external labels and $\hat{H}_{act}$ contains only the active-space contributions,

$$\hat{H}_{act} = \sum_{xy} (h_x^y + \sum_i v_{xi}^{yi}) a_x^\dagger a_y + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{xyzw} v_{xy}^{zw} a_x^\dagger a_y^\dagger a_w a_z, \quad (5)$$

where an additional term is included to describe interaction between the core and active electrons.

We now assume that we have determined a starting complete active-space (CAS) wavefunction $|\Psi_0\rangle$. To construct a multi-reference perturbation theory, we consider the wavefunction $|\Psi_0\rangle$ to be an eigenfunction of a zeroth-order Hamiltonian $\hat{H}^{(0)}$. While the choice of $\hat{H}^{(0)}$ is flexible, it is clear that it must be an interacting Hamiltonian. A convenient choice, which does not lead to intruder-state problems and the one we will assume in later development, is the Dyall Hamiltonian⁴⁸ $\hat{H}^{(0)} = \hat{H}_D$, defined as

$$\hat{H}_D = \sum_{ij} f_i^j a_i^\dagger a_j + \sum_{ab} f_a^b a_a^\dagger a_b + \hat{H}_{act}, \quad (6)$$

$$f_p^q = h_p^q + \sum_{rs} v_{pr}^{qs} \gamma_s^r, \quad (7)$$

where $\gamma_p^q = \langle \Psi_0 | a_p^\dagger a_q | \Psi_0 \rangle$ is the one-particle density matrix of $|\Psi_0\rangle$. Without loss of generality, we can work in the diagonal basis of the core and external generalized Fock operators, $f_i^j \rightarrow \epsilon_i \delta_i^j$, $f_a^b \rightarrow \epsilon_a \delta_a^b$, and henceforth, we will assume that we do so.

We can now consider a direct expansion with respect to the perturbation $\lambda \hat{V} = \lambda(\hat{H} - \hat{H}_D)$. For example, writing the ground-state energy of $\hat{H}_D + \lambda \hat{V}$ as $E(\lambda)$, we define the n th-order perturbation to the energy as

$$E^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n!} \left. \frac{\partial^n E(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda^n} \right|_{\lambda=0}. \quad (8)$$

Starting from our choice of $\hat{H}_D$ as the reference Hamiltonian, the time-independent perturbation series corresponds to the fully uncontracted NEVPT.^{25,26} Denoting $\hat{V}'$ as the part of $\hat{V}$ that contributes explicitly to the first-order wavefunction $|\Psi^{(1)}\rangle$ ($\hat{V}' = \hat{Q}\hat{V}$, $\hat{Q} = 1 - |\Psi_0\rangle\langle\Psi_0|$), the second-order energy can be written as

$$E^{(2)} = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{V}'^\dagger | \Psi^{(1)} \rangle = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{V}'^\dagger \frac{1}{E_D - \hat{H}_D} \hat{V}' | \Psi_0 \rangle. \quad (9)$$

We can now observe the complications in the uncontracted multi-reference perturbation theory described above, which arise in evaluating the expression (9). The first-order wavefunction involves the resolvent $\frac{1}{E_D - \hat{H}_D}$; however, unlike in the single-reference setting, the inversion appears to formally require inverting in the many-particle space. In addition, $|\Psi^{(1)}\rangle$ lives in a space of determinants with $N - 1$ or $N - 2$ electrons in the core and active orbitals and 1 or 2 electrons in the external orbitals. Except for very small basis sets, the resulting number of determinants is even larger than in the N -electron complete active space used to determine $|\Psi_0\rangle$. Based on these concerns, the above uncontracted multi-reference perturbation theory formulation is almost never used. Instead, most implementations use an *internal contraction* approximation, where $|\Psi^{(1)}\rangle$ is expanded in a set of contracted many-particle basis functions as

$$|\Psi^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_I c_I^{(1)} \hat{O}_I |\Psi_0\rangle, \quad (10)$$

where $\hat{O}_I$ are operators which generate excitations. Different choices of $\hat{O}_I$ may be made, giving rise to, for example, the strongly contracted (sc-) and partially contracted (pc-) variants of n -electron valence perturbation theory.^{25,26} Although the numerical error due to internal contraction is generally small,²² a significant drawback is that the basis states $\hat{O}_I |\Psi_0\rangle$ are no longer orthogonal. This introduces a many-particle metric into the theory, which can either be diagonalized at a large cost (e.g., $O(N_{act}^9)$, where N_{act} is the number of active orbitals) or which leads to numerical instabilities. Further, expectation values such as the energy in Eq. (9) involve the excitation operators $\hat{O}_I$. These then require the evaluation of long strings of fermion operators and the computation of high-order density matrices.

Our thesis here is that, when considering larger active spaces, it can be more natural and computationally efficient to work with the original uncontracted

FIG. 1. Schematic orbital energy diagram showing the orbital index convention used for the active-space multi-reference wavefunction $|\Psi_0\rangle$.

formulation, which is a direct extension of the single-reference formalism, rather than with the more commonly implemented and approximate contracted formulations. The key is to organize the uncontracted algorithm in an appropriate way. Such an organization is conveniently provided by the time-dependent formulation of the perturbation theory.

B. Time-dependent perturbation theory

We now consider multi-reference perturbation expansion from a time-dependent perspective. The general time-dependent perturbation theory⁴⁹ writes the ground-state wavefunction as

$$E^{(n)} = i\partial_t \left(\frac{(-i)^n}{n!} \int_{-\infty}^t dt_1 \dots \int_{-\infty}^t dt_n \langle \Psi_0 | \mathcal{T} \hat{V}_H(t_1) \hat{V}_H(t_2) \dots \hat{V}_H(t_n) | \Psi_0 \rangle \right) \Big|_{t=0}, \quad (12)$$

where $\hat{V}_H(t) = e^{i(\hat{H}^{(0)} - E^{(0)})t} \hat{V} e^{-i(\hat{H}^{(0)} - E^{(0)})t}$ and L denotes linked contributions, is identical to Eq. (8). Restricting our attention to second-order perturbation theory, Eq. (12) can be written more simply as

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(2)} &= - \int_0^\infty d\tau \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{V}_H^\dagger(\tau) \hat{V}_H'(0) | \Psi_0 \rangle \\ &= - \int_0^\infty d\tau \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{V}^\dagger e^{-(\hat{H}_D - E_D)\tau} \hat{V}' | \Psi_0 \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where only the $\hat{V}'$ contributions are included, and we have made the standard deformation of the integral from the real to the imaginary t axis with the substitution $\tau = it$ (Wick rotation). Eq. (13) is no other than the well-known Laplace transform expression of the second-order energy and is transparently equivalent to the time-independent result in Eq. (9). However, the presence of the reference Hamiltonian in the exponent rather than in a denominator is a major advantage in the multi-reference setting. In particular, since the zeroth-order Hamiltonian for a multi-reference problem must take the form

$$\hat{H}^{(0)} = \hat{H}_{act} + \hat{H}_{core/ext}, \quad (14)$$

where $\hat{H}_{core/ext}$ and $\hat{H}_{act}$ commute; then, the exponent factorizes as

$$e^{-\hat{H}^{(0)}\tau} = e^{-\hat{H}_{act}\tau} e^{-\hat{H}_{core/ext}\tau}, \quad (15)$$

and the time-evolution can be carried out completely separately in the active and core/external spaces. (Note that this does not require using the Dyall Hamiltonian specifically). Because of this decoupling, we do not need to consider the large $O(N_{det} \times N_{ext}^2)$ dimension of the first-order interacting space, and this removes the barrier to working with the uncontracted formulation of multi-reference perturbation

$$|\Psi(\lambda)\rangle = \frac{\mathcal{T} \exp \left[-i \int_{-\infty}^0 dt (\hat{H}^{(0)} + \lambda \hat{V}(t)) \right] |\Psi_0\rangle}{\langle \Psi_0 | \mathcal{T} \exp \left[-i \int_{-\infty}^0 dt (\hat{H}^{(0)} + \lambda \hat{V}(t)) \right] | \Psi_0 \rangle}, \quad (11)$$

where the perturbation is switched on adiabatically at $t = -\infty$, i.e., $\hat{V}(t) = \hat{V} e^{-\alpha|t|}$, and the operator $\mathcal{T}$ ensures time-ordering.

Since the perturbation $\hat{V}$ does not depend on time (aside from the exponentially vanishing adiabatic factor), time-dependent perturbation expansion (11) must be identical to the time-independent expansion discussed in Sec. II A. For example, the n th-order wavefunction $|\Psi^{(n)}\rangle = \frac{1}{n!} \frac{\partial^n |\Psi(\lambda)\rangle}{\partial \lambda^n}$ is identical to the n th-order wavefunction evaluated from the Rayleigh-Schrödinger perturbation theory. Similarly, the n th-order energy given by

theory. Further, time-evolution with $\hat{H}_{act}$ is an operation of similar complexity to determining $|\Psi_0\rangle$ itself and thus does not lead to an increase in the computational scaling of the method. While it is possible, in principle, to use the structure of $\hat{H}^{(0)}$ without referring to time-evolution, the time-dependent language provides a natural organization for efficient algorithms.

C. Second-order time-dependent perturbation theory with Dyall Hamiltonian

Let us now analyze the time-dependent formulation specializing to the choice of $\hat{H}^{(0)} = \hat{H}_D$. We first analyze the structure of contributions to $E^{(2)}$ in Eq. (13). It is convenient to divide $\hat{V}'$ into 8 different terms,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{V}' &= \hat{V}^{[0]} + \hat{V}^{[+1]} + \hat{V}^{[-1]} + \hat{V}^{[+2]} + \hat{V}^{[-2]} \\ &\quad + \hat{V}^{[+1']} + \hat{V}^{[-1']} + \hat{V}^{[0']}, \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where the superscripts $[0], [+1], [-1], \dots$ are the conventional NEVPT2 notation^{25,41} and do not denote the perturbation order. Explicit equations for each term of Eq. (16) are given in the Appendix. Operators in Eq. (16) give rise to 8 contributions to the second-order energy $E^{(2)}$,

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(2)} &= E^{[0]} + E^{[+1]} + E^{[-1]} + E^{[+2]} + E^{[-2]} \\ &\quad + E^{[+1']} + E^{[-1']} + E^{[0']}. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

As an example, we consider the $E^{[-2]}$ energy contribution arising from double excitations from active to external space ($xy \rightarrow ab$):

$$\begin{aligned}
E^{[-2]} &= - \int_0^\infty \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{V}_H^{[-2]\dagger}(\tau) \hat{V}_H^{[-2]}(0) | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau \\
&= - \frac{1}{16} \int_0^\infty \sum_{\substack{wxyz \\ abcd}} v_{zw}^{cd} v_{ab}^{xy} \langle \Psi_0 | a_z^\dagger(\tau) a_w^\dagger(\tau) a_d(\tau) a_c(\tau) a_a^\dagger a_b^\dagger a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau \\
&= - \frac{1}{8} \int_0^\infty \sum_{\substack{wxyz \\ ab}} v_{zw}^{ab} v_{ab}^{xy} e^{-(\varepsilon_a + \varepsilon_b)\tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_z^\dagger(\tau) a_w^\dagger(\tau) a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau \\
&= - \frac{1}{8} \int_0^\infty \sum_{wxyz} \epsilon_{zw}^{xy}(\tau) G_{xy}^{zw}(\tau) d\tau,
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

where we defined an intermediate $\epsilon_{zw}^{xy}(\tau) = \sum_{ab} v_{zw}^{ab} v_{ab}^{xy} e^{-(\varepsilon_a + \varepsilon_b)\tau}$ and used the property of the time-dependence of the Dyall Hamiltonian in the external space: $a_a(\tau) = e^{-\varepsilon_a \tau} a_a(0) = e^{-\varepsilon_a \tau} a_a$. In Eq. (18), $G_{xy}^{zw}(\tau) = \langle \Psi_0 | a_z^\dagger(\tau) a_w^\dagger(\tau) a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle$ is a two-particle one-time Green's function of the Dyall Hamiltonian in the active space. In general, the time-ordered m -particle n -time Green's function is defined in imaginary time as

$$G_{rs\dots}^{pq\dots}(\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_n) = \langle \Psi_0 | \mathcal{T} a_p^\dagger(\tau_1) a_q^\dagger(\tau_2) \dots a_r(\tau_n) | \Psi_0 \rangle. \tag{19}$$

The highest rank active-space Green's function that appears in Eq. (13) arises from the $\hat{V}'$ contributions that involve 3 active-space labels, namely, $\hat{V}^{[-1']}$ and $\hat{V}^{[+1']}$. Contractions of these operators yield three-particle one-time Green's functions $\langle \Psi_0 | a_u^\dagger(\tau) a_v^\dagger(\tau) a_w(\tau) a_z^\dagger a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle$ and $\langle \Psi_0 | a_u^\dagger(\tau) a_v(\tau) a_w(\tau) a_z^\dagger a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle$, as shown in the Appendix.

The one-, two-, and three-particle, one-time, active-space Green's functions are the central objects to compute in t-NEVPT2. The reduction of the energy to these compact quantities is an important strength of the time-dependent view. Physically, this simplicity arises because electron correlation effects are implicitly described by the time-dependence of the Green's functions. We stress that although the time-dependent second-order energy is expressed entirely in terms of reduced Green's functions, reminiscent of the internal contraction approximation, there is no approximation being made, Eq. (13) yields the fully uncontracted theory. Thus, there is no inversion of a metric tensor, which is a bottleneck for large active spaces and basis sets in internally contracted theories, and the most complicated object to appear is the three-particle Green's function, in contrast to the four-particle density matrix in time-independent internally contracted NEVPT2. Additional costs arise from the need to compute a time-evolution and time-integration in Eq. (13); however, as we will demonstrate in Sec. III, these tasks are not computationally difficult and can be carried out very efficiently.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

We now briefly discuss the implementation of t-NEVPT2 for complete active-space self-consistent field (CASSCF) reference wavefunctions.^{1,50,51} The t-NEVPT2 algorithm is summarized below and can be easily implemented using

any available full configuration interaction (FCI) or CASSCF computer program. The individual steps are as follows:

1. Compute initial active-space wavefunctions at $\tau = 0$ (e.g., $|\Psi^x\rangle = a_x^\dagger |\Psi_0\rangle$ and $|\Psi_{xy}\rangle = a_x a_y |\Psi_0\rangle$). There are seven types of active-space states to be computed, namely, $|\Psi^x\rangle$, $|\Psi_x\rangle$, $|\Psi^{xy}\rangle$, $|\Psi_{xy}\rangle$, $|\Psi_y^x\rangle$, $|\Psi_z^{xy}\rangle$, and $|\Psi_{yz}^x\rangle$ (see the Appendix for details).
2. Loop over time steps starting with $\tau = 0$. Compute reduced Green's functions by evaluating the overlap matrix elements $G(\tau') = \langle \Phi(\tau') | \Phi \rangle$, where $|\Phi(\tau')\rangle$ and $|\Phi\rangle$ are the active-space states ($|\Psi^x\rangle$, $|\Psi^{xy}\rangle$, ...) at $\tau = \tau'$ and $\tau = 0$, respectively. For example, for $|\Phi\rangle = |\Psi_{yx}\rangle$, the corresponding two-particle Green's function is $G(\tau') = \langle \Psi_{wz}(\tau') | \Psi_{yx} \rangle = \langle \Psi_0 | a_z^\dagger(\tau') a_w^\dagger(\tau') a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle$.
3. Compute correlation energy contributions at $\tau = \tau'$ as the product of one- and two-electron integrals and the active-space Green's functions, $E(\tau') = \epsilon(\tau') G(\tau')$. For example, for $|\Phi\rangle = |\Psi_{yx}\rangle$, the integral prefactor $\epsilon(\tau') = \epsilon_{zw}^{xy}(\tau') = -\frac{1}{8} \sum_{ab} v_{zw}^{ab} v_{ab}^{xy} e^{-(\varepsilon_a + \varepsilon_b)\tau'}$ and the corresponding energy contribution $E^{[-2]}(\tau') = \sum_{wxyz} \epsilon_{zw}^{xy}(\tau') \langle \Psi_{wz}(\tau') | \Psi_{yx} \rangle$.
4. If the magnitude of the correlation energy at $\tau = \tau'$ is less than the energy convergence threshold ($|E(\tau')| < \Delta E_{conv}$), proceed to step 5. If $|E(\tau')| > \Delta E_{conv}$, propagate the active-space states $|\Phi\rangle$ according to the time-dependent Schrödinger equation,

$$|\Phi(\tau)\rangle = e^{-(\hat{H}_D - E_D)\tau} |\Phi\rangle, \tag{20}$$

where $\tau = \tau' + \delta\tau$ and $\delta\tau$ is a step in imaginary time. Return to step 2.

5. Compute correlation energy by time-integration,

$$E^{(2)} = \int_0^\infty E(\tau) d\tau. \tag{21}$$

Eq. (21) is evaluated by fitting the computed values $E(\tau)$ to an exponential function $\mathcal{E}(\tau) = \sum_i a_i e^{-b_i \tau}$, followed by the analytic integration of the obtained result. Depending on the desired accuracy, fitting typically requires a linear combination of 6 to 12 exponentials.

The basic t-NEVPT2 algorithm outlined above has $O(N_\tau \times N_{det} \times N_{act}^7)$ computational cost, where N_{det} is the dimension of the active-space Hilbert space, N_τ is the number of time steps, and N_{act} is the number of active orbitals. The efficiency of the algorithm is greatly improved if we avoid the explicit computation and storage of the $|\Psi_z^{xy}\rangle$ and $|\Psi_{yz}^x\rangle$ states

FIG. 2. Errors of the t-NEVPT2 correlation energy (in E_h), relative to the uncontracted NEVPT2 correlation energy, computed for different values of the ΔE_{conv} parameter (see Sec. III for details). The error values are plotted as red crosses for a range of N_2 bond distances. The ΔE_{conv} values are depicted as horizontal dashed lines. Computations employed the (6e, 6o) CASSCF reference wavefunction and the 6-311G basis set. Also shown is the average number of time steps taken during the time-propagation ($\langle N_{steps} \rangle$).

by contracting these wavefunctions with the corresponding two-electron integral tensors. For example, the three-particle contribution to $E^{[-1]}$ can be evaluated by computing a vector,

$$|v_a\rangle = \sum_{xyz} v_{ax}^{zy} a_x^\dagger a_y a_z |\Psi_0\rangle, \quad (22)$$

propagating $|v_a(\tau)\rangle = e^{-(\hat{H}_D - E_D)\tau} |v_a\rangle$, and evaluating the integral,

$$E^{[-1]} \leftarrow -\frac{1}{4} \int_0^\infty \sum_a e^{-\varepsilon_a \tau} \langle v_a(\tau) | v_a \rangle d\tau. \quad (23)$$

Avoiding the explicit time-propagation of the $|\Psi_z^{xy}\rangle$ and $|\Psi_{yz}^x\rangle$ states lowers the computational scaling of the t-NEVPT2 algorithm to $O(N_\tau \times N_{det} \times N_{ext} \times N_{act}^4) + O(N_\tau \times N_{det} \times N_{act}^6)$, where N_{ext} is the number of external orbitals. This is significantly less than the cost of computing the four-particle density matrix in internally contracted time-independent theories such as sc- and pc-NEVPT2 ($O(N_{det} \times N_{act}^8)$), when using large active spaces.

For further efficiency improvements, it is desirable to reduce the number of time steps N_τ while maintaining the accuracy of time-propagation and time-integration. In our implementation, the time-propagation in Eq. (20) is performed using the embedded Runge-Kutta (ERK) (4,5) algorithm,⁵² which automatically determines the time step $\delta\tau$ to use in a fourth-order Runge-Kutta propagation based on the error estimate of the fifth-order propagator

approximation, as well as the specified convergence threshold ΔE_{conv} . We begin time-propagation by setting $\delta\tau$ to a small value ($\sim 10^{-3}$). At each iteration, the new time step is determined as $\delta\tau' = \min(2 \times \delta\tau, \delta\tau_{emb})$, where $\delta\tau_{emb}$ is the time step estimated using the ERK method. The resulting algorithm typically requires 10-15 time-propagation steps to achieve $0.1 mE_h$ accuracy in the correlation energy $E^{(2)}$. Figure 2 demonstrates the errors in $E^{(2)}$ for the dissociation of the N_2 molecule, relative to the exact uncontracted NEVPT2 correlation energy, computed for different values of ΔE_{conv} .

Finally, we stress that each step of the t-NEVPT2 algorithm can be efficiently parallelized. In particular, computation, memory storage and time-propagation of the active-space states $|\Phi\rangle$ can be performed in an “embarrassingly” parallel fashion, with zero communication between processors. In our parallel implementation, each processor is assigned to compute a subset of states $\{|\Phi\rangle\}_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, K$), where K is the total number of processors (step 1 of the algorithm above). At every time step $\tau = \tau'$, the i th subset $\{|\Phi(\tau')\rangle\}_i$ is propagated on the i th processor (step 4). The correlation energy contributions from each subset $\{|\Phi(\tau')\rangle\}_i$ can be computed by evaluating the Green’s function matrix elements $G(\tau') = \langle \Phi(\tau') | \Phi \rangle_i$, where the states $|\Phi\rangle$ at $\tau = 0$ are either recomputed or accessed from memory (steps 2 and 3). We do not exploit parallelism for the energy evaluation in our current implementation, since this is a relatively inexpensive step of the algorithm.

IV. COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS

t-NEVPT2 was implemented as a standalone Python code interfaced with the Pyscf program.⁵³ For details about the t-NEVPT2 implementation, see Sec. III. Our t-NEVPT2 code reproduces the uncontracted NEVPT2 results using the MPS-PT2 algorithm reported by Sharma and Chan.³⁶ All multi-reference methods employed the CASSCF wavefunctions^{1,50,51} as the reference, with active spaces of n electrons in m orbitals denoted as (ne , mo). Computations using the complete active-space second-order perturbation theory (CASPT2),²³ pc-NEVPT2,^{25,26} as well as multi-reference configuration interaction (MRCI)²² theory with single and double excitations were performed using the Molpro package.⁵⁴ The MRCI energies were supplied with the Davidson correction; the resulting method is denoted as MRCI+Q.^{55,56} In all computations, the cc-pVXZ ($X = D, T, Q, 5$) basis sets⁵⁷ were used, unless noted otherwise. For the chromium dimer, the t-NEVPT2 correlation energies were converged to $\Delta E_{conv} = 10^{-4} E_h$, while for all other systems the tighter $\Delta E_{conv} = 10^{-5} E_h$ parameter was used. The Cr_2 total energies were extrapolated to the complete basis set (CBS) limit using the following equations:^{58,59}

$$E_{\text{ref}}(X) = E_{\text{ref}}^{\text{CBS}} + Ae^{-B(X+1)}, \quad (24)$$

$$E_{\text{corr}}(X) = E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{CBS}} + C(X+1)^{-3}, \quad (25)$$

where $E_{\text{ref}}(X)$ and $E_{\text{corr}}(X)$ are the CASSCF reference and the corresponding correlation energies, respectively, computed using the cc-pVXZ basis sets. To obtain $E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{CBS}}$, the $E_{\text{corr}}(X)$ ($X = Q, 5$) correlation energies were used.

TABLE I. Total energy ($E + 76.0$, in E_h) for the symmetric dissociation of water as a function of the O–H bond length (R , Å). All methods employed the (6e, 9o) CASSCF reference wavefunction and the cc-pVQZ basis set. The H–O–H angle was fixed at 104.5° .

R , Å	MRCI+Q	CASPT2	sc-NEVPT2	pc-NEVPT2	t-NEVPT2
0.8	−0.322 31	−0.304 24	−0.305 84	−0.306 83	−0.306 85
0.9	−0.385 28	−0.367 22	−0.367 99	−0.369 20	−0.369 24
1.0	−0.389 02	−0.370 94	−0.371 58	−0.373 05	−0.373 09
1.1	−0.363 48	−0.345 40	−0.346 34	−0.348 07	−0.348 12
1.2	−0.324 79	−0.306 84	−0.308 13	−0.310 18	−0.310 22
1.3	−0.281 75	−0.264 18	−0.265 36	−0.267 74	−0.267 80
1.4	−0.238 86	−0.222 33	−0.219 24	−0.222 12	−0.222 17
1.5	−0.199 00	−0.183 21	−0.178 42	−0.181 46	−0.181 51
1.6	−0.163 42	−0.148 36	−0.143 11	−0.146 10	−0.146 15
1.7	−0.132 63	−0.118 34	−0.112 77	−0.115 68	−0.115 73
1.8	−0.106 76	−0.093 26	−0.087 52	−0.090 29	−0.090 34
1.9	−0.085 70	−0.072 92	−0.067 15	−0.069 76	−0.069 81
2.0	−0.069 10	−0.056 93	−0.051 28	−0.053 71	−0.053 76
2.1	−0.056 45	−0.044 73	−0.039 31	−0.041 58	−0.041 63
2.2	−0.047 09	−0.035 70	−0.030 56	−0.032 71	−0.032 75
2.3	−0.040 35	−0.029 19	−0.024 35	−0.026 37	−0.026 41
2.4	−0.035 58	−0.024 56	−0.020 01	−0.021 93	−0.021 96
2.5	−0.032 24	−0.021 31	−0.017 01	−0.018 83	−0.018 87
2.6	−0.029 90	−0.019 03	−0.014 93	−0.016 68	−0.016 72
2.7	−0.028 26	−0.017 42	−0.013 48	−0.015 18	−0.015 22
2.8	−0.027 10	−0.016 28	−0.012 47	−0.014 13	−0.014 16

TABLE II. Total energy ($E + 109.0$, in E_h) of N_2 as a function of the N–N bond length (R , Å). All methods employed the (10e, 10o) CASSCF reference wavefunction and the cc-pVQZ basis set.

R , Å	MRCI+Q	CASPT2	sc-NEVPT2	pc-NEVPT2	t-NEVPT2
0.9	−0.289 56	−0.271 99	−0.256 00	−0.259 00	−0.259 36
1.0	−0.430 66	−0.412 72	−0.397 51	−0.400 49	−0.400 84
1.1	−0.463 73	−0.445 60	−0.430 88	−0.433 86	−0.434 21
1.2	−0.442 76	−0.424 67	−0.410 12	−0.413 14	−0.413 49
1.3	−0.397 69	−0.379 89	−0.365 13	−0.368 24	−0.368 60
1.4	−0.344 95	−0.327 75	−0.312 35	−0.315 59	−0.315 97
1.5	−0.293 23	−0.276 99	−0.260 46	−0.263 88	−0.264 27
1.6	−0.246 89	−0.232 01	−0.213 82	−0.217 43	−0.217 83
1.7	−0.207 92	−0.194 80	−0.174 41	−0.178 17	−0.178 59
1.8	−0.177 03	−0.165 75	−0.142 68	−0.146 49	−0.146 95
1.9	−0.153 85	−0.143 69	−0.112 70	−0.116 91	−0.117 46
2.0	−0.137 59	−0.128 73	−0.095 58	−0.099 68	−0.100 20
2.1	−0.126 73	−0.118 32	−0.084 47	−0.088 25	−0.088 71
2.2	−0.119 70	−0.111 21	−0.077 34	−0.080 80	−0.081 18
2.3	−0.115 21	−0.106 37	−0.072 85	−0.076 02	−0.076 33
2.4	−0.112 34	−0.103 07	−0.070 04	−0.072 96	−0.073 23
2.5	−0.110 48	−0.100 78	−0.068 27	−0.071 00	−0.071 22
2.6	−0.109 24	−0.099 18	−0.067 15	−0.069 72	−0.069 91
2.7	−0.108 39	−0.098 04	−0.066 43	−0.068 87	−0.069 03
2.8	−0.107 79	−0.097 21	−0.065 96	−0.068 29	−0.068 43
2.9	−0.107 36	−0.096 61	−0.065 65	−0.067 89	−0.068 01

V. RESULTS

A. Covalent bond dissociation in H_2O and N_2

We begin by investigating the accuracy of t-NEVPT2 for the description of the bond dissociation of N_2 and the symmetric bond stretching of H_2O . Tables I and II present the total energies of H_2O and N_2 computed using t-NEVPT2, MRCI+Q, CASPT2, as well as strongly and partially contracted NEVPT2. We use MRCI+Q as the benchmark and plot the error in energy ($\Delta E = E - E[\text{MRCI+Q}]$) along the ground-state potential energy curves (PECs) in Figures 3 and 4. We first compare performance of t-NEVPT2 with

FIG. 3. Energy (in mE_h) as a function of the O–H bond length for the symmetric bond dissociation of water, relative to multi-reference configuration interaction (MRCI+Q). All methods employed the (6e, 9o) CASSCF reference wavefunction and the cc-pVQZ basis set. The H–O–H angle was fixed at 104.5° . The inset shows deviation of the strongly and partially contracted NEVPT2 energies from the uncontracted t-NEVPT2 results.

FIG. 4. Energy (in mE_h) as a function of the N–N bond length for the dissociation of N_2 , relative to multi-reference configuration interaction (MRCI+Q). All methods employed the (10e, 10o) CASSCF reference wavefunction and the cc-pVQZ basis set. Plot (a) shows results from the equilibrium region to dissociation, while (b) presents a detailed plot for the 1.80–1.95 Å region. In both plots, the inset shows deviation of the strongly and partially contracted NEVPT2 energies from the uncontracted t-NEVPT2 results.

respect to CASPT2. For H_2O , PECs of both methods exhibit similar mean absolute deviations (Δ_{MAD}) relative to MRCI+Q (Figure 3), while the t-NEVPT2 curve is more parallel, as demonstrated by the smaller non-parallelity error ($\Delta_{NPE} = \max(E) - \min(E) = 4.5 mE_h$), compared to CASPT2 ($\Delta_{NPE} = 7.3 mE_h$). In the case of N_2 (Figure 4), this situation is reversed, with CASPT2 giving the smaller Δ_{MAD} errors than t-NEVPT2 ($\Delta_{MAD} = 11.8$ and $34.0 mE_h$, respectively), while the Δ_{NPE} errors for both methods are similar (9.7 and $10.4 mE_h$).

We now compare the performance of t-NEVPT2 with sc- and pc-NEVPT2. Since the t-NEVPT2 results are uncontracted, the difference of the t-NEVPT2 and NEVPT2 energies allows us to observe the errors of the internal contraction approximation. These errors are plotted in the inset of Figures 3 and 4. The effect of strong contraction in sc-NEVPT2 amounts to errors of 1–5 mE_h in correlation energy for the systems studied, with significant deviations from parallelity (2–3 mE_h) relative to t-NEVPT2. The errors of internal contraction in pc-NEVPT2 are much smaller: 0.04 and 0.42 mE_h for H_2O and N_2 , respectively, on average. Nevertheless, in the case of N_2 , the pc-NEVPT2 energies exhibit a noticeable non-parallelity error ($\sim 0.7 mE_h$), relative

to t-NEVPT2, with the largest deviation of $\sim 0.9 mE_h$ at 1.88 Å, where both methods show steep increase of their errors with respect to MRCI+Q (Figure 4(b)).

B. Ground and excited states in C_2

In this section, we analyze the performance of t-NEVPT2 for predicting the properties of excited states in the carbon dimer (C_2). Specifically, we consider the three singlet electronic states of C_2 : the ground $X^1\Sigma_g^+$ state and the two low-lying excited states ($B^1\Delta_g$ and $B'^1\Sigma_g^+$). For each state, reference wavefunctions were obtained from the state-averaged CASSCF computation using the (8e, 8o) active space, with all three states averaged with equal weights. We employ the recent density matrix renormalization group (DMRG) results by Wouters *et al.*⁶⁰ as the benchmark. Figure 5 compares PECs of the three states computed using DMRG and t-NEVPT2, while the errors of CASPT2, sc-NEVPT2, and t-NEVPT2, relative to DMRG, are shown in Figure 6. Out of the three methods considered, sc-NEVPT2 exhibits the smallest non-parallelity errors (Δ_{NPE}), while Δ_{NPE} of t-NEVPT2 is intermediate between that of sc-NEVPT2 and CASPT2. Both t-NEVPT2 and sc-NEVPT2 show a more

FIG. 5. Potential energy curves for the three singlet states of C_2 computed using (a) DMRG and (b) t-NEVPT2 (cc-pVDZ basis set). For t-NEVPT2, the (8e, 8o) CASSCF reference wavefunction was used, with all three states averaged with equal weights. The DMRG results employing the (12e, 28o) active space were obtained from Ref. 60.

FIG. 6. Errors in total energies (ΔE , mE_h) of the three singlet states of C_2 , relative to DMRG. For CASPT2, sc-NEVPT2, and t-NEVPT2, the (8e, 8o) CASSCF reference wavefunction was used, with all three states averaged with equal weights. The DMRG results employing the (12e, 28o) active space were taken from Ref. 60. All computations employed the cc-pVDZ basis set.

consistent performance across PECs of different electronic states than CASPT2, which can be observed by comparing the spread of the error curves in Figure 6 for each method. As a result, the t-NEVPT2 and sc-NEVPT2 vertical excitation energies are in significantly better agreement with DMRG, compared to CASPT2. At $R(C-C) = 2.4 a_0$ (near equilibrium), the errors in the ($B^1\Delta_g \leftarrow X^1\Sigma_g^+$; $B'^1\Sigma_g^+ \leftarrow X^1\Sigma_g^+$) vertical excitation energies are (0.03; 0.03), (0.06; 0.05), and (0.17; 0.11) eV for t-NEVPT2, sc-NEVPT2, and CASPT2, respectively. In addition, t-NEVPT2 and sc-NEVPT2 show much smaller non-parallelity errors than CASPT2 for the description of avoided crossing of the $X^1\Sigma_g^+$ and $B'^1\Sigma_g^+$ states ($2.9\text{--}3.4 a_0$).

C. Chromium dimer

Finally, we turn our attention to the chromium dimer, whose ground-state PEC is notoriously difficult to describe well theoretically. The Cr_2 molecule has been the subject of many computational studies.^{29,61–72} It has been shown that, for a proper description of the Cr_2 dissociation curve, a combination of high levels of theory with very large

basis sets is required. With respect to the choice of multi-reference methodology, accurate results have recently been obtained using the multi-reference-averaged quadratic coupled cluster method,⁷⁰ auxiliary-field quantum Monte Carlo,⁷¹ and the combination of the internally contracted perturbation theories (CASPT2 and NEVPT2) with DMRG.^{29,72} The latter perturbation theory studies have demonstrated that multi-reference wavefunctions based on the valence (12e, 12o) active space, which contains the 3d and 4s orbitals of chromium atoms, generally do not provide a sufficiently good zeroth-order approximation for perturbative treatments,^{67–69} and including extra 4d shells is necessary to achieve quantitative agreement with the experiment.^{29,72} However, an open question is the effect of contraction in the perturbation theory treatment of the Cr_2 curve. Here, we perform the first uncontracted perturbation theory study of the Cr_2 PEC by employing our t-NEVPT2 algorithm. As we currently can only use CASSCF reference wavefunctions, we will limit our analysis to the (12e, 12o) active space and investigate the effect of the strong contraction approximation by comparing the results of t-NEVPT2 with sc-NEVPT2 in the same active space.

Figure 7 shows the ground-state PECs for the Cr_2 dissociation curve computed using the cc-pVXZ basis sets ($X = T, Q, 5$) and extrapolated to the CBS limit. Using the small (12e, 12o) active space, both sc-NEVPT2 and t-NEVPT2 significantly overbind (by ~ 0.9 eV) around the equilibrium region (1.5–2.1 Å), relative to experiment.⁷³ Also, as previously seen, the computed PECs strongly depend on the basis set, giving rise to the large correction of the CBS extrapolation. When using the cc-pVTZ basis set, both perturbative methods produce an incorrect shape of the PECs, with a barrier in the range of 2.0–2.3 Å. However, in the case of t-NEVPT2, the magnitude of the barrier is significantly lowered compared to sc-NEVPT2. Increasing the basis set results in the disappearance of the barrier and the appearance of the characteristic “shoulder” on the PECs (2.1–2.8 Å). In this region, the CBS-extrapolated PECs for both methods exhibit a good agreement with experiment, with errors of less than 0.1 eV. Figure 8 compares the sc-NEVPT2 and t-NEVPT2 binding energies relative to experiment. The effect of the

FIG. 7. Ground-state potential energy curves (in eV) for the dissociation of Cr_2 computed using (a) sc-NEVPT2 and (b) t-NEVPT2. Both methods employed the (12e, 12o) CASSCF reference wavefunction and the cc-pVXZ basis sets ($X = T, Q, 5$). Energies are relative to the isolated atoms. The complete basis set (CBS) limit results were obtained as discussed in Sec. IV. Experimental curve is taken from Ref. 73.

FIG. 8. Ground-state binding energies (in eV) for the dissociation of Cr_2 computed using sc-NEVPT2 and t-NEVPT2, relative to experiment.⁷³ Energies were extrapolated to the complete basis set limit. Both methods employed the (12e, 12o) CASSCF reference wavefunction.

strong contraction approximation amounts to ~ 0.15 eV in Cr_2 dissociation energy in the equilibrium region and decreases monotonically towards the dissociation limit. Interestingly, the recent results of Guo *et al.*⁷² using sc-NEVPT2 on top of a DMRG reference wavefunction in a (12e, 22o) active space (including the 4d shells and relativistic effects) yields a slight underbinding relative to experiment, by about 0.05 eV. Assuming a smaller effect of contraction in the larger active space employed by Guo *et al.*, the underbinding may be corrected by using the uncontracted formulation. Finally, as seen from Figure 8, in the shoulder region, the uncontracted t-NEVPT2 PEC is slightly more parallel to that of experiment than that of sc-NEVPT2.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

In this work, we argued for considering a time-dependent implementations of multi-reference perturbation theory. The essential reason is that it is complicated to represent the resolvent operator for a complicated zeroth-order Hamiltonian, while it is simple to represent the corresponding time-evolution of the same operator. As an example, we provided the formulation and implementation of second-order perturbation theory using the Dyall Hamiltonian. The corresponding theory is equivalent to fully uncontracted n -electron valence perturbation theory, but reduces the scaling relative to contracted variants of the theory, particularly with respect to the number of active orbitals ($\mathcal{O}(N_{\text{det}} \times N_{\text{act}}^6)$ versus $\mathcal{O}(N_{\text{det}} \times N_{\text{act}}^8)$ scaling), and further avoids the need to diagonalize large metric matrices. Using this formulation, we examined the effect of contraction in multi-reference perturbation theory in a variety of model problems, including water, nitrogen dimer, carbon dimer, and the chromium dimer, in large and realistic basis sets.

Several extensions of the current work can be imagined. An immediate extension is to combine the time-dependent formulation of the n -electron valence perturbation theory with DMRG reference wavefunctions, thus providing an uncontracted analogue of the recently reported combination of strongly contracted n -electron valence perturbation theory with the DMRG reference.⁷² Such an uncontracted theory

will also be closely related to the recently reported matrix product state perturbation theory (MPS-PT2), although it would use the time-dependent DMRG algorithm, rather than relying on MPS compression of the Hylleraas functional as in MPS-PT2.³⁶ There, the efficiency and accuracy of the DMRG compression during imaginary-time evolution remain to be studied. Alternatively, the generalization of higher-order diagrammatic perturbation theories and resummations using interacting zeroth-order Hamiltonians is a natural extension of this work. In this context, comparison with the recent renormalized Green's function techniques based on impurity formulations, which incorporate different kinds of contributions into the diagrammatic expansion, would appear interesting and fruitful.^{74,75}

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APPENDIX: t-NEVPT2 ENERGY CONTRIBUTIONS

Components of the perturbation operator $\hat{V}'$ (Eq. (16)) are defined as

$$\hat{V}^{[0]} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ijab} v_{ab}^{ij} a_a^\dagger a_b^\dagger a_j a_i, \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\hat{V}^{[+1]} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijxa} v_{ax}^{ij} a_a^\dagger a_x^\dagger a_j a_i, \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$\hat{V}^{[-1]} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ixab} v_{ab}^{ix} a_a^\dagger a_b^\dagger a_x a_i, \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\hat{V}^{[+2]} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ijxy} v_{xy}^{ij} a_x^\dagger a_y^\dagger a_j a_i, \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$\hat{V}^{[-2]} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{xyab} v_{ab}^{xy} a_a^\dagger a_b^\dagger a_y a_x, \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{V}^{[+1']} &= \sum_{ix} h_x^i a_x^\dagger a_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijx} v_{xj}^{ij} a_x^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_j a_i \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ixyz} v_{yz}^{ix} a_y^\dagger a_z^\dagger a_x a_i, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{V}^{[-1']} &= \sum_{xa} h_a^x a_a^\dagger a_x + \sum_{ixa} v_{ai}^{xi} a_a^\dagger a_i^\dagger a_i a_x \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{xyaz} v_{az}^{xy} a_a^\dagger a_z^\dagger a_y a_x, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A7})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{V}^{[0']} &= \sum_{ia} h_a^i a_a^\dagger a_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ija} v_{aj}^{ij} a_a^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_j a_i \\ &\quad + \sum_{ixya} v_{ay}^{ix} a_a^\dagger a_y^\dagger a_x a_i. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A8})$$

The t-NEVPT2 correlation energy contributions (Eq. (17)) can be written as

$$E^{[0]} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ijab} \frac{v_{ij}^{ab} v_{ab}^{ij}}{\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j - \varepsilon_a - \varepsilon_b}, \quad (\text{A9})$$

$$E^{[+1]} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{xy} \int_0^\infty \sum_{ija} v_{ij}^{ay} v_{ax}^{ij} e^{(\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j - \varepsilon_a)\tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_y(\tau) a_x^\dagger | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau, \quad (\text{A10})$$

$$E^{[-1]} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{xy} \int_0^\infty \sum_{iab} v_{iy}^{ab} v_{ab}^{ix} e^{(\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_a - \varepsilon_b)\tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_y^\dagger(\tau) a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau, \quad (\text{A11})$$

$$E^{[+2]} = -\frac{1}{8} \sum_{wxyz} \int_0^\infty \sum_{ij} v_{ij}^{zw} v_{xy}^{ij} e^{(\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j)\tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_z(\tau) a_w(\tau) a_y^\dagger a_x^\dagger | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau, \quad (\text{A12})$$

$$E^{[-2]} = -\frac{1}{8} \sum_{wxyz} \int_0^\infty \sum_{ab} v_{zw}^{ab} v_{ab}^{xy} e^{-(\varepsilon_a + \varepsilon_b)\tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_z^\dagger(\tau) a_w^\dagger(\tau) a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau, \quad (\text{A13})$$

$$E^{[+1']} = -\sum_{xy} \int_0^\infty \sum_i \tilde{h}_i^y \tilde{h}_x^i e^{\varepsilon_i \tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_y(\tau) a_x^\dagger | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau - \sum_{wxyz} \int_0^\infty \sum_i \tilde{h}_i^w v_{zy}^{ix} e^{\varepsilon_i \tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_w(\tau) a_z^\dagger a_y^\dagger a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau \\ - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{uvw} \int_0^\infty \sum_i v_{iu}^{wv} v_{zy}^{ix} e^{\varepsilon_i \tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_u^\dagger(\tau) a_v(\tau) a_w(\tau) a_z^\dagger a_y^\dagger a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau, \quad (\text{A14})$$

$$E^{[-1']} = -\sum_{xy} \int_0^\infty \sum_a \tilde{h}_y^a \tilde{h}_a^x e^{-\varepsilon_a \tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_y^\dagger(\tau) a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau - \sum_{wxyz} \int_0^\infty \sum_a \tilde{h}_w^a v_{az}^{xy} e^{-\varepsilon_a \tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_w^\dagger(\tau) a_z^\dagger a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau \\ - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{uvw} \int_0^\infty \sum_a v_{uv}^{aw} v_{az}^{xy} e^{-\varepsilon_a \tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_u^\dagger(\tau) a_v^\dagger(\tau) a_w(\tau) a_z^\dagger a_y a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau, \quad (\text{A15})$$

$$E^{[0']} = \sum_{ia} \frac{\tilde{h}_i^a \tilde{h}_a^i}{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_a} + 2 \sum_{ixya} \frac{\tilde{h}_a^i v_{ix}^{ay} \gamma_y^x}{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_a} - \sum_{wxyz} \int_0^\infty \sum_{ia} v_{iz}^{aw} v_{ay}^{ix} e^{(\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_a)\tau} \langle \Psi_0 | a_z^\dagger(\tau) a_w(\tau) a_y^\dagger a_x | \Psi_0 \rangle d\tau. \quad (\text{A16})$$

In Eqs. (A9) to (A16), the $\tilde{h}_p^q$ matrix elements are defined as

$$\tilde{h}_p^q = h_p^q + \sum_i v_{pi}^{qi}. \quad (\text{A17})$$

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