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Quantum entanglement in helium-like ions¹ Y.-C. LIN, Y.K. HO, Institute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences — Recently, there have been considerable interests to investigate quantum entanglement in two-electron atoms [1-3]. Here we investigate quantum entanglement for the ground and excited states of helium-like ions using correlated wave functions, concentrating on the particle-particle entanglement coming from the continuous spatial degrees of freedom. We use the twoelectron wave functions constructed by employing *B*-spline basis to calculate the linear entropy of the reduced density matrix $L = 1 - Tr_A(\rho_A^2)$ as a measure of the spatial entanglement. Here $\rho_A = Tr_B(|\varphi\rangle_{AB AB} \langle \varphi|)$ is the one-electron reduced density matrix obtained after tracing the two-electron density matrix over the degrees of freedom of the other electron. We have investigated the spatial entanglement for the helium-like systems with Z=1 to Z=10. For the helium atoms (Z=2), we have calculated the linear entropy for the ground state and the $1sns^1S^e$ (n=2-10) excited states. Results are compared with other calculations [1-3].

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