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**Scattering of near-zero-energy positronium by H<sub>2</sub>** JUN-YI ZHANG,  
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Division of Physical Science & Engineering, King Abdullah University of Science and  
Technology, Thuwal 23955-6900, Saudi Arabia — The scattering length and pick-  
off annihilation parameter for the *S*-wave scattering of zero-energy positroniums  
(Ps) by H<sub>2</sub> are calculated by the stabilization method using explicitly correlated  
Gaussians. The confined variational method is used to optimize the Gaussians in  
order to describe the short-range interaction of the incident Ps with H<sub>2</sub> in the fixed  
nucleus approximation. By applying a confining potential to the center-of-mass  
of Ps, the problem of continuum states can be converted to a problem of discrete  
energy levels. For scattering at very low energies, the convergence of the scattering  
parameters can be improved by including exterior basis functions to describe the  
asymptotic region, which are given by products of Gaussians with H<sub>2</sub> wave function  
and Ps wave function. In addition, the effect of van der Waals interaction between  
the Ps and H<sub>2</sub> on scattering parameters will be taken into account.

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