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**Citation:** Chen, Edward S. et al. "Hylleraas Hydride Binding Energy: Diatomic Electron Affinities." *Journal of Molecular Modeling* 21.4 (2015): n. pag.

**As Published:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00894-015-2598-0>

**Publisher:** Springer Berlin Heidelberg

**Persistent URL:** <http://hdl.handle.net/1721.1/107384>

**Version:** Author's final manuscript: final author's manuscript post peer review, without publisher's formatting or copy editing

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## Hylleraas hydride binding energy: Diatomic electron affinities

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Abstract: Theoretical adiabatic electron affinities are often considered inaccurate because they are referenced to only a single value. Ground state electron affinities for all the main group elements and homonuclear diatomics were recently identified using the normalized binding energy of the hydrogen atom;  $[0.75420375(3)/2 = 0.37710187(1) \text{ eV}]$ . Here we revisit experimental values and extend the identifications to diatomics in the G2-1 set. We assign new ground state electron affinities: (eV) Cl<sub>2</sub>, 3.2(2); Br<sub>2</sub>, 2.87(14); CH, 2.1(2); H<sub>2</sub>, 0.6 ; NH, 1.1, SiH, 1.90. Anion Morse potentials are calculated for H<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> from positive electron affinities and for hyperfine superoxide states for the first time.

## 1.0 Introduction:

Theoretical adiabatic electron affinities,  $gs-AE_a$ , are incorrectly characterized because they are compared to only one benchmark. For example, the density functional  $AE_a$  : (eV)  $O_2$ , 1.08, 1.06, 0.62, 0.65, 0.35;  $NO$ , 0.97, 0.96, 0.53, 0.52, 0.43, 0.36;  $SF_6$ , 1.67, 2.66, 2.83, 2.85, 3.00, 3.22 in a frequently cited review, 2002R, were considered inaccurate, with an average deviation of 0.75 eV, when compared to  $AE_a$  : (eV)  $O_2$ , 0.451(7);  $NO$ , 0.026(5),  $SF_6$ , 1.07(7). The National Institute of Standards and Technology database, exp-NIST, cites experimental  $AE_a$ : (eV)  $O_2$ , 1.1, 0.725, 0.45, 0.33, 0.15;  $NO$ , 0.93, 0.85, 0.1, 0.026;  $SF_6$  2.6(2), 1.49(22), 1.07(7), 0.75(10), 0.54205, 0.32(15) while a 1953 review, 1953R, assigned the swarm and reduction potential, ERED,  $AE_a(O_2)$ , about 1 eV to the ground state and the swarm and Born Haber 0.77, 0.57, 0.33 eV to excited states. [1-5] The  $AE_a(AB)$  is the energy difference between anions and neutrals in their geometries; Vertical  $E_a$ ;  $VE_a$  in the neutral geometry and vertical detachment energy  $E_{vd}$  in the anion geometry.

In 1950, Massey stated: "The number of bound quantum states of a negative ion is not infinite. Indeed the small binding energy of the unattached electron in its ground state makes it unlikely that, apart from fine and hyperfine structure levels, ANY excited states will exist". [6] Two decades later, Lesk demonstrated all atomic  $E_a$  are positive and Efimov proved that three body quantum systems support an infinite number of bound states. Hydride,  $H(+)+2e(-)$ , is the simplest three body anion. [7,8] The normalized  $gs-E_a(H)$ , designated the Hylleraas  $Hyl = gs-E_a(H)/2 = 0.75420375(3)/2 = 0.3771$  eV/electron; the  $N_{Hyl} = gs-E_a(Z)/Hyl$ ; the  $Rec = N_{Hyl}/N_v$  and  $dN_{Hyl} = [gs-AE_a(Z_2) - gs-E_a(Z)]/Hyl = [D_e(Z_2[-]) - D_e(Z_2)]/Hyl$  were used to report positive  $gs-AE_a(Z \& Z_2)$ . The Rec: He-Rn, 0.2-0.3; Li-Fr, 0.82-0.63; B-Tl, 0.19-0.25; C-Pb, 0.67-0.58; N-Bi, 0.33-0.42; O-Te, 0.55-0.75; F-I, 1.13-1.02 illustrate the consistent periodicity. The density functional  $AE_a(N)$ , 0.75 eV, the  $AE_a(N_2)$ , 0.6 eV from  $dN_{Hyl}$ , -0.5, and the  $AE_a(H_2)$ , 0.38 eV from  $dN_{Hyl}$ , -1 were assigned to the ground states. [9-14]

Electron correlation rules predict 54 superoxide states dissociating to [ $^3\text{O} + ^2\text{O}(-)$ ] and 87  $\text{NO}(-)$  states dissociating to [ $^1\text{N} + ^2\text{O}(-)$ ] and [ $^3\text{N}(-) + ^3\text{O}$ ]. [15] In 2004, Herder measured the temperature dependence of pulsed discharge electron capture detector, PDECD responses that gave  $\text{AE}_a(\text{O}_2)$ , 0.05 to 0.75 eV; assigned peaks at  $\text{AE}_a(\text{O}_2)$ , 0.05 to 1.07 eV, in the negative ion photoelectron spectra, NPES-95 to predicted states and applied the semi-empirical multi configuration configuration interaction CURES-EC, (Configuration Interaction, **U**nrestricted or **R**estricted **E**stimates of **S**elf consistent field **E**lectron **C**orrelation) method to account for the electron correlation problem, to superoxide,  $\text{NO}(-)$  and  $\text{SF}_6(-)$ . [1,2, 16-21] In 2007, Toader and Graham characterized long range superoxide states observed in low temperature discharges using a semi-classical model. [22] The peak at 0.05 eV in the NPES-95 is now assigned to long range Efimov states. In 2010, Pai reported 27 bonding  $\text{AE}_a(\text{O}_2)$ , 0.15 to 1.07 eV from cyclic voltamograms (CV). [23, 24] The Herschbach Ionic Morse Person Electron Curves, HIMPEC in Fig 1 were calculated from these values and negative values from  $\text{AE}_a = 0.377dN_{\text{Hyl}} + \text{AE}_a(\text{Z})$ . [1, 14, 25, 26]

This work revisits and extends the methods used to report the gs-electron affinities of the main group atoms and homonuclear diatomics,  $\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}$ , and  $\text{SF}_6$ . [1, 2, 14-24, 27-49] The NPES-02 was used as a prototype for the determination of the benchmark  $\text{AE}_a(\text{O}_2)$  in 2002R. Here the 54 transitions from the 27 superoxide states to the two lowest neutral states are identified by comparison with the higher resolution NPES-95 and imaging spectra, IPES-10. [20,27] Hyperfine superoxide states are identified in experimental data. [1, 14-18, 21-24, 33] The theoretical  $E_a(\text{Be \& Mg})$ , 0.28 eV, the largest evaluated experimental  $\text{AE}_a$ : (eV)  $\text{Cl}_2$ , 3.2(2),  $\text{Br}_2$ , 2.87(14),  $\text{CH}$ , 2.1(2);  $\text{AE}_a$  : (eV)  $\text{H}_2$ , 0.6,  $\text{NH}$ , 1.1,  $\text{SiH}$ , 1.9 estimated from  $dN_{\text{Hyl}}$  are assigned to the ground states. The dissociation energies for all of the diatomic anions are reproduced by semi-empirical anion Morse potentials, s-AMP. New HIMPEC for  $\text{H}_2(-)$ ,  $\text{N}_2(-)$  and hyperfine  $\text{O}_2(-)$ , are calculated using these data.

## 2.0 Experimental and theoretical methods

The literature data are obtained from tables or by electronic digitization of figures in the original articles. Any sources not specifically cited are from NIST, the 2002R or the 1953R. Shown in figure 1 are: ECD data for NO and O<sub>2</sub> from a dissertation by Freeman; other ECD, PDECD; atmospheric pressure negative ion mass spectral, API-NIMS data published in 2003 and 2013 and ECD, swarm, magnetron and flame data for O<sub>2</sub>. These data and others were combined to report 27 AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>): (eV) X <sup>2</sup>Π, [1.070,1.050]; A<sup>2</sup>Δ, [0.595, 0.562] ; B <sup>2</sup>Σ, 0.515 ; C <sup>2</sup>Π [0.450, 0.430] ; D <sup>2</sup>Σ, 0.415; E <sup>2</sup>Σ, 0.360; a <sup>4</sup>Σ [0.950, 0.930]; b <sup>4</sup>Δ [0.786, 0.750, 0.722, 0.702]; c <sup>4</sup>Σ [0.750, 0.730]; d <sup>4</sup>Π [0.312, 0.284, 0.264, 0.252]; e <sup>4</sup>Σ [0.250, 0.230]; f <sup>4</sup>Π [0.212, 0.180, 0.160, 0.148] used to estimate 27 negative values in Table 1. Also determined were AE<sub>a</sub>(NO): (eV) X <sup>3</sup>Σ, 0.92; a <sup>1</sup>Σ, 0.40; b <sup>3</sup>Δ, 0.16 for states dissociating to N + O(-). These values and values for states dissociating to N(-) + O are compared to CURES-EC values in Table 2. The thermal values are from magnetron, ECD and swarm data.

Herder used the PDECD and chromatograph in Fig. 2 to measure the temperature dependence of high purity samples of O<sub>2</sub> as described in 2004. "Initial studies were carried out with helium as a carrier gas and Xe and Kr as dopants to obtain the simplest reaction composition. Studies were also carried out using more complicated dopants: synthetic air, O<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>. Samples were pure O<sub>2</sub> and synthetic air." The AE<sub>a</sub> and E<sub>1</sub> for NO and O<sub>2</sub> were determined by iterated least squares fits to:  $K_{ex} = k_1 / (2(k_{-1} + A_N))$ : where  $K_{ex}$  is the molar response;  $A_N$  is the pseudo first order rate constant for anion losses;  $k_1 = A_1 T^{-1/2} \exp(-E_1/RT)$ ,  $k_{-1} = A_{-1} T \exp(-E_{-1}/RT)$  are the electron attachment and detachment rate constants. The maximum  $A_1$  from the DeBroglie wavelength of the electron is attenuated by the different third bodies. The  $A_{-1}$  is from:  $K_{eq} = [(Q_{an} S_{an})(A_1 / A_{-1}) T^{-3/2}] \exp(E_a/RT)$  where  $Q_{an}$  and  $S_{an}$  are partition function and spin ratios. [1,2,14-21]

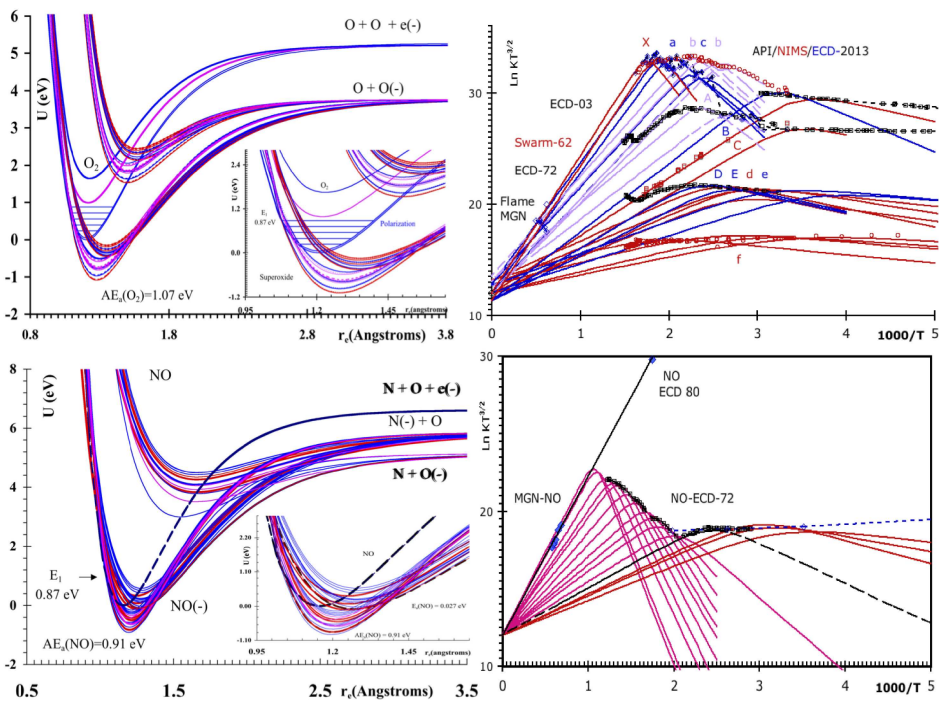


Figure 1: Neutral and anionic one dimensional Morse potential energy curves of energy vs internuclear separation referenced to the neutral dissociation energy = 0 and thermal data for NO and  $O_2$  plotted as  $\ln KT^{3/2}$  vs  $1000/T$  from refs. 14-18,21,31,32,41,42.

## Pulsed Discharge Electron Capture Detector

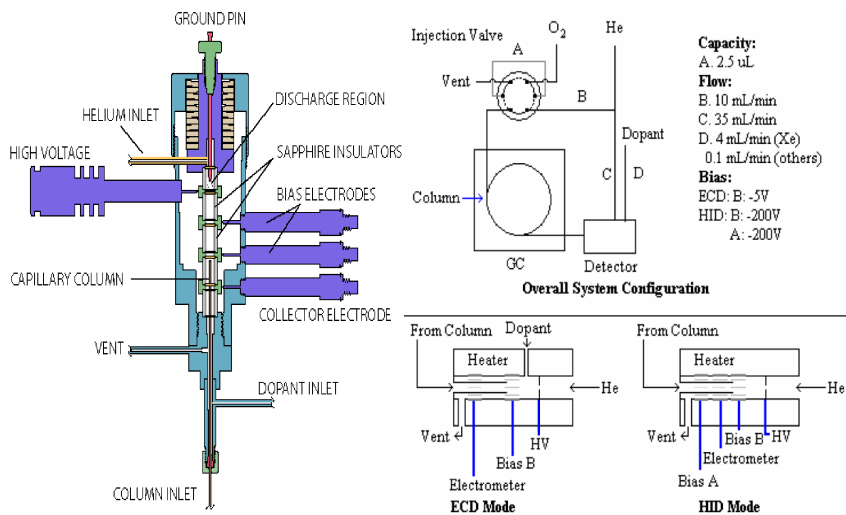


Figure 2: PDECD equipment used by Herder in 2004 from refs. 2,17,21

In 2008, Pai collected the electrochemical data shown in figures 3 and 5 and determined the 27 valence state  $AE_a(O_2)$ . He wrote, “The cyclic voltammograms of air-saturated solutions in dimethyl sulfoxide were recorded from  $T = 298K$  to  $409K$ . The temperature was the only quantity changed. The reference electrode was a saturated calomel electrode stored in saturated KCl [ $Hg_2Cl_2$ ]; the auxiliary electrode was platinum, and the working electrode was glassy carbon coated with functionalized multi-walled carbon nanotubes grown using chemical vapor deposition.” Similar lower resolution data were obtained using standard glassy carbon electrodes. [23,24]

Herder matched all of the  $AE_a$  for NO as shown in Table 2 but only values for  $O_2$  up to PM3(7100), 0.68 eV with CURES-EC described as follows. “The first step in the semi-empirical CURES-EC method is the selection of an  $E_a$  such as the experimental  $AE_a(NO)$ : (eV) 0.85(5), 0.68(20), 0.1(1), 0.0260(5). Then, geometry optimization SCF and MCCI, calculations are performed on the neutral and negative ion, for example PM3(aann), where a and n are anion and neutral filled and unfilled orbitals. The maximum  $E_a$  is the RHF(aa00), or the UHF(UU00) and the minimum RHF(00nn) where a and n are the maximum values. The optimum MCCI configuration is obtained by minimizing  $\delta = \text{abs}(E_a(\text{exp}) - E_a)$ . A successful calculation gives deviations less than the experimental uncertainty.” [1,2,14-21]

The semi-empirical anion Morse Potential s-AMP method uses a subroutine in the HYPERCHEM suite to calculate dissociation energies of anions. In 2010, Pai reproduced the anion dissociation energy for the gs- $AE_a(O_2)$ , 1.07 eV with the PM3(7100) s-AMP method. The  $AE_a(O)$ , 1.0 eV from the dissociation limit is 0.46 eV lower than the experimental values. Lim, Rosenthal and Pham applied the CURES-EC and s-AMP methods to the  $Z_2$  and diatomics in the G2-1 set. The dissociation energies giving the positive ground state electron affinities for  $N_2$  and  $H_2$  were obtained from only the s-AMP method. [23,24]

### 3.0 Results:

Since 1967, this laboratory has evaluated experimental electron affinities and periodically selected the “best” values. [1, 2, 14, 50] In 2004, experimental electron affinities of organic molecules from donor acceptor complex absorption spectra, reduction potentials and gas phase  $E_a$  in exp-NIST, were examined for unreported systematic errors. [1,4] The only gas phase values with such errors were for biphenylene, 0.890 eV and p-t-amyl-nitrobenzene, 2.168 eV. The former was for an isochor, acenaphylene based on the agreement with the results for a chromatographically purified sample in the electron capture detector. The value for t-amyl-nitrobenzene was referenced to a gs- $AE_a$  of nitrobenzene, 2 eV, now determined to be 1.008 eV. These findings were confirmed by CURES-EC.

The dipole bound electron affinities for the biologically significant tautomers of the nucleobases: (eV) A, 0.012(5); C, 0.085(8),0.230(8); U, 0.089(6); T, 0.069(8) were the only values listed in exp-NIST although we had reported gs- $AE_a$  : ( eV) A, 1.10(1); G, 1.58(1), C,1.05(1); U, 0.99(1); T, 0.98(1) from reduction potentials, chemical ionization negative ion mass spectra and onsets in literature NPES and confirmed them by CURES-EC. [1, 2] The exp-NIST database now includes vertical detachment energies  $E_{vd}$ : (eV) C, 2.34(10); U, 2.49(10); T, 2.40(10) assigned to valence states of rare tautomers.

The Hylleraas and CURES-EC were used to select gs- $AE_a$  ( $Z$  and  $Z_2$ ). This paper revisits values for  $Z_2$  and extends the selection to diatomics in the G2-1 set. Newly assigned gs- $E_a$ (Be & Mg) are 0.26 eV and gs- $AE_a$  are: (eV)  $Cl_2$ , 3.2(2),  $Br_2$ , 2.87(14), CH, 2.1(2),  $H_2$ , 0.6, NH, 1.1, SiH, 1.9. The values for Be and Mg are from theoretical calculations and gs- $E_a$ (B); the values for  $Cl_2$  and  $Br_2$  are from exp-NIST. The CH value is the average of values from exp-NIST and 1953R. [51-56] The values for  $H_2$ ,NH and SiH are estimated from  $dN_{Hyl}$ . The anion dissociation energies are supported using semi-empirical anion Morse potentials, s-AMP.



### 3.1 The electron affinities of NO, O<sub>2</sub>, and SF<sub>6</sub>

The exp-NIST lists AE<sub>a</sub>(NO):(eV) NPES-72, 0.024(10); NPES-89, 0.026(6); ECD-83, 0.1(1); neutral beam-73, >0.1(1); electron impact, EI-69, >0.65(10); endothermic-76, 0.68(20); electron impact-68, 0.85(10); magnetron-64, 0.910647 and AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>):(eV) photodetachment-58, 0.15(5); swarm-66, 0.43(2); EI-69 > 1.10(10); bracketing-70, 1.12(7); ion beam-70, > 1.27(20); NPES-71 to 03, 0.430(30); 0.440(8); 0.451(7); 0.446(5) ECD-02, 0.725005. [4, 17, 30-44] The more precise spin orbital AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>), 0.450(2), 0.430(2) eV from the NPES-95 are not in exp-NIST. The 27 AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>), and 30 AE<sub>a</sub>(NO) used to calculate the HIMPEC in figure. 1 are consistent with all the values in exp-NIST, peaks in the NPES-95 and the data from this laboratory and others plotted in Figures. 1, 3 and 4. The m/z = 30 and 32 ion yield curves from electron impact on NO<sub>2</sub> obtained simultaneously and the ECD data reported by Freeman before 1970 giving multiple values are especially significant.

In 1953, Pritchard reported that the AE<sub>a</sub>(NO) was positive based on electron attachment studies and stated “it seems fairly certain that the electron affinity of the oxygen molecule is of the order of 20 kcal./mole, (sic 0.85 eV from the Born Haber Cycle) and that electron attachment, which takes place with almost zero exothermicity, leads to an excited state of O<sub>2</sub> which is stabilized either by collision or by radiation of the excess energy.” [5] The PD-58-AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>) 0.15(5) eV and the magnetron-64, 0.910647 eV were the first precise AE<sub>a</sub> to be reported. Then, Freeman determined AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>) 0.45 and 0.9 eV and AE<sub>a</sub>(NO) 0.1 eV and 0.9 eV from the ECD data in Figure. 1. Since 1973, the AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>) 0.45 and AE<sub>a</sub>(NO) 0.026 eV values have become the benchmark values. In 2003 this laboratory reported positive AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>) for 24 electronic states from the ECD-72, ECD-03 data and the NPES-95. The AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>), 0.725005 eV average of two ECD values, 0.700 eV and 0.750 eV is the only significantly different value added to NIST since the bracketing-70, AE<sub>a</sub>(O<sub>2</sub>), 1.12(7) eV .

In 2013, the atmospheric pressure negative ion mass spectrometer , API-NIMS, ECD, PDECD and CV data in figures 1, 3 and 5 were used to report  $AE_a$  for the 27 bonding spin orbital superoxide states. In figure 3 are: the 1958 photodetachment data; the 1969 m/z, 30 and 32 ion yield curves from the electron impact of  $NO_2$ ; the equilibrium constants obtained from the CV, electron impact and photon data and peaks in the NPES-95 and imaging negative ion photoelectron spectra, IPES-10 used to assign peaks in the NPES-02. The peaks lower than 0.1 eV are assigned to Efimov like states.

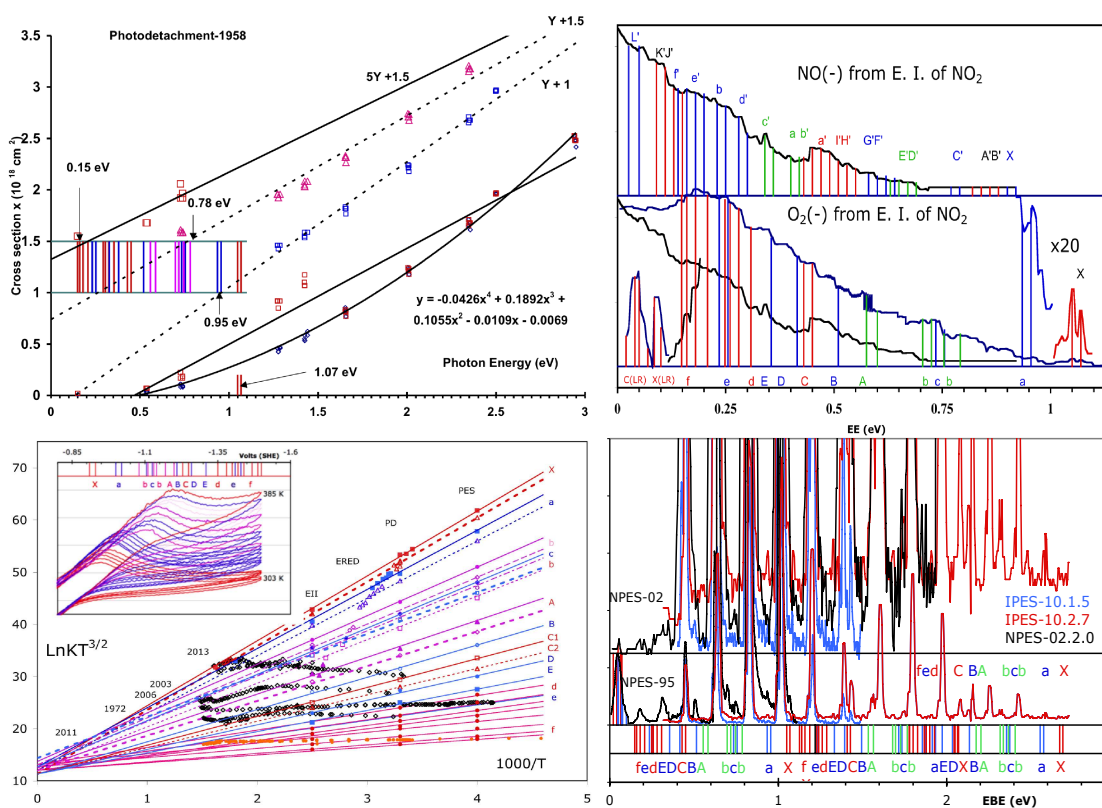


Fig. 3 Experimental data illustrating the identification, and assignment of valence state and long range electron affinities of oxygen: photodetachment-58 data from ref 30; electron impact data from ref. 33; CV and thermal data from refs. 14-18,23, 24, 30, 31 and photoelectron spectra from refs. 3,20,38,39. The X axes for all but the CV and thermal data are energies in eV and the Y axes are ion currents and cross sections in arbitrary units. The electron impact data ion yield of m/z =30 and 32 from the electron impact of  $NO_2$  vs energy from ref. 33. The thermal data are plots of  $\text{Ln}KT^{3/2}$  vs  $1000/T$ . The CV are plots of current vs potential from ref. 23.

In 2003, Dinu, Groennboom and van der Zande reported 12 hyperfine energies of the  $C\ ^2\Pi_{3/2,1/2}$  superoxide state from photodissociation above the  $O(^2P_{3/2,1/2}) + O(^3P_{2,1,0})$  limits. [28] In 2010, Cavanagh and co-workers reported the first fully resolved peaks for the six hyperfine states of atomic oxygen anion shown in Figure 4. [29] The 12 resolved  $C\ ^2\Pi_{3/2,1/2}$  peaks displaced by the fine structure, 20 meV and the 18 B, D, E,  $^2\Sigma_{1/2}$  are lined up with the major peaks in the Kinetic Energy Release curve from Dinu et al. The identification of these 30  $C\ ^2\Pi_{3/2,1/2}$  hyperfine states suggest that the 54 spin orbital fine structure states should each be split into six giving a total of  $6 \times 54 = 324$  hyperfine states. In Figures 5 and 6 are 162 hyperfine peaks at the positive hyperfine electron affinities in the cyclic voltammograms, electron impact, NPES-72, 95 and NPES-02. These are the first examples of both the fine and hyperfine structure levels for molecular anions suggested by Massey. These will be used to construct the first HIMPEC for hyperfine superoxide states.

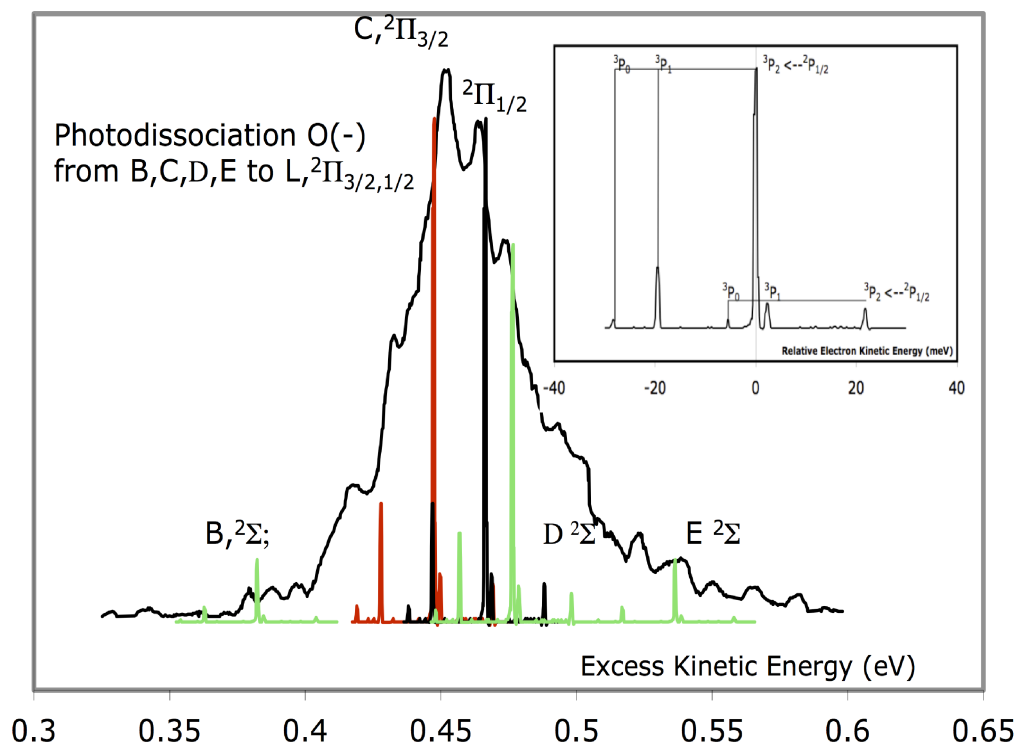


Figure 4 Photo dissociation data from reference 28 and hyperfine structure of O(-) from ref. 29. The atomic hyperfine structure separated by about 20 meV are lined up with the major peaks in the photodissociation curves demonstrating that the dominant dissociation occurs from the C state of superoxide. Also shown are minor peaks at the B, D, and E hyperfine states.

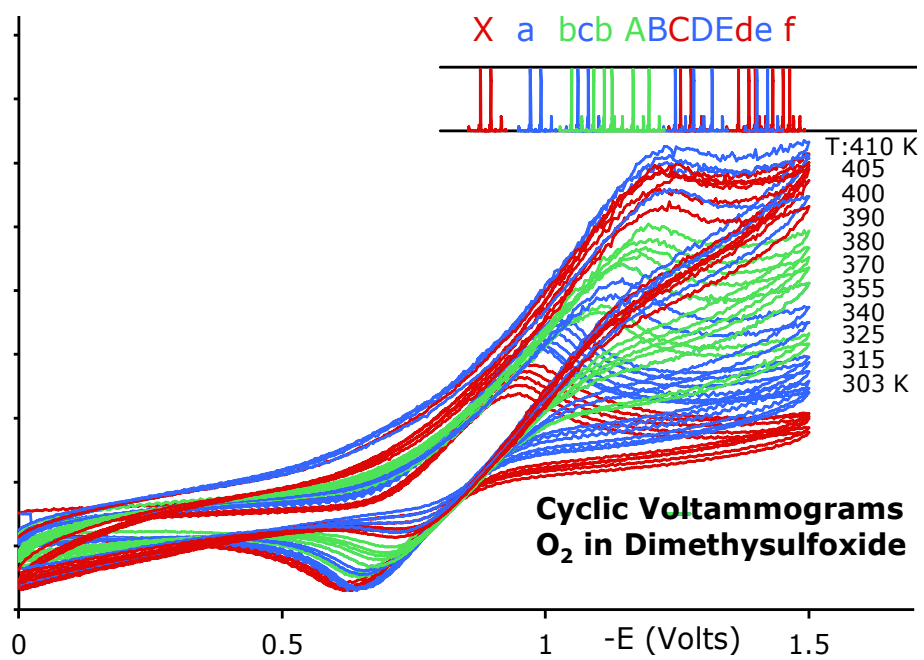


Figure 5 Hyperfine electron affinities of O<sub>2</sub> from cyclic voltammograms. The sources of the data and axes are given in Fig. 3 . The identification of the hyperfine state were carried out using the high resolution atomic data in Fig. 4.

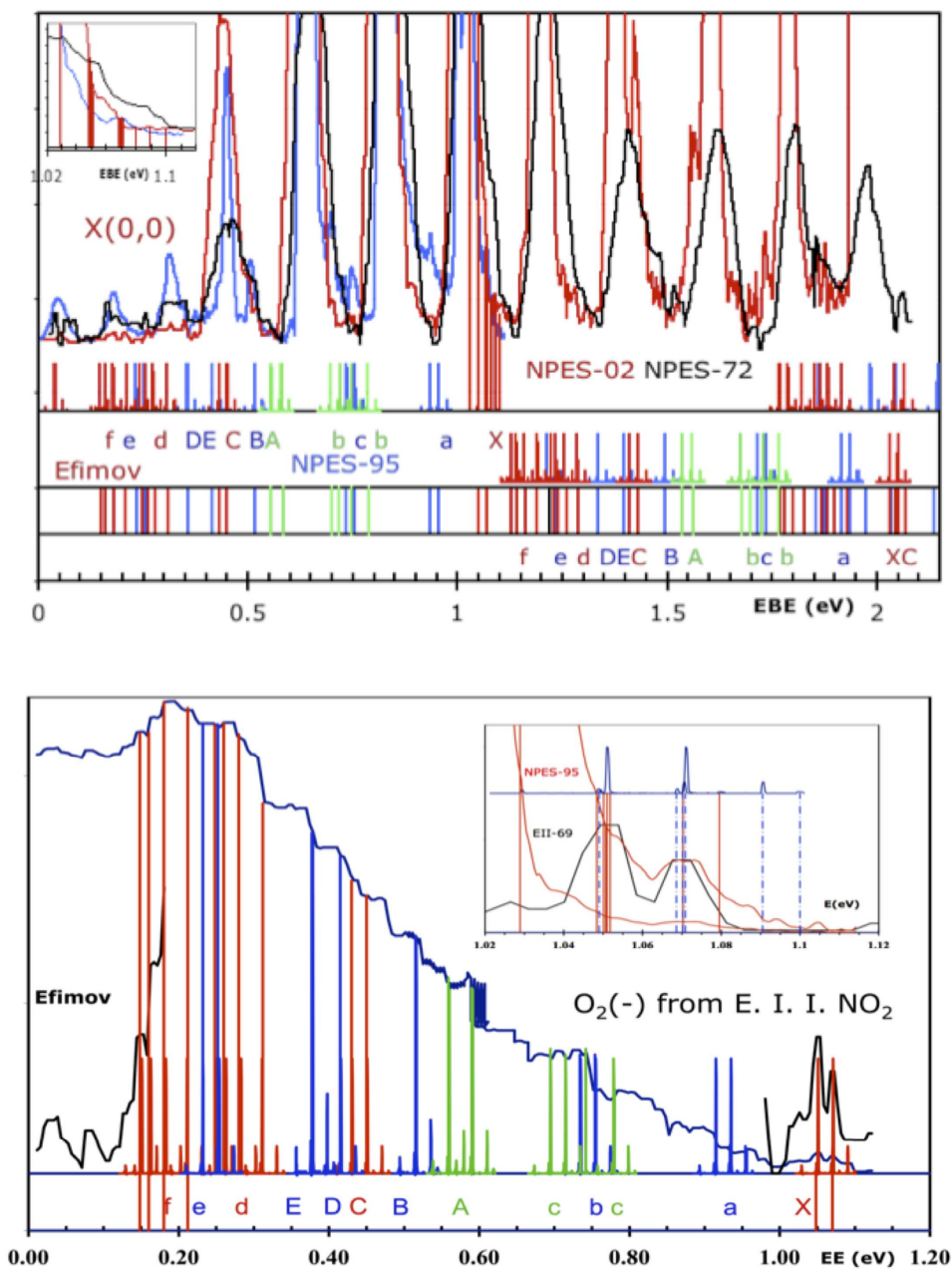


Figure 6 Hyperfine electron affinities of O<sub>2</sub> (top) from NPES-72, 95 and NPES-02 and (bottom) from m/z =32 from electron impact on NO<sub>2</sub>. The sources of the data and axes are given in Fig. 3 . The identification of the hyperfine states were carried out using the high resolution atomic data in Fig. 4.

The deviation of the 2002R density functional  $AE_a(SF_6)$ : (eV) 1.67, 2.66, 2.83, 2.85, 3.00, 3.22 differ from the benchmark by at least 0.6 eV was described by the authors. “Perhaps the best experimental value for  $EA(SF_6)$  is 1.07 (7) eV, as determined by Chen, Wiley, Batten, and Wentworth in 1994 using thermal electron attachment negative ion mass spectrometry. The DFT results [...] severely overestimate this value by about 1.8 eV on average.” [3] In 2007 we reported  $AE_a(SF_6)$  from 0.15 eV to 2.6(2) eV from the temperature dependence of ECD, PDECD, API-NIMS, MGN, beam and swarm data and supported them by CURES-EC. Also, Jalbout and co-workers calculated theoretical  $AE_a(SF_6)$  from 0.11 to 2.97 eV. We recently reported a new  $gs-AE_a(SF_6)$ , 3.0(1) eV, from surface ionization data collected by Pelc. The 2002R values clearly overlap this value and the  $E_{pd}$ , 3.16 eV reported in 1991. [47,48]

### 3.2 Electron affinities of atoms and homonuclear diatomics.

In 2013, we noted that the Hylleraas variational  $gs-AE_a(H)$ , like the Rydberg is a fundamental constant. Hylleraas also calculated the first accurate atomic excited state electron affinities, 0.2876 eV for the metastable singly excited (2s) state of the hydrogen anion and lower values for doubly excited states. Following Efimov, there should be an infinite number of hydrogen anions with binding energies  $0.75/(22.4)^n$  and  $0.29/(22.4)^n$  analogous to Rydberg states of atoms. The  $E_a(H)$  per valence electron, designated the Hylleraas,  $Hyl = 0.75420375(3)/2 = 0.3771$  eV/electron was used to select the first complete set of positive  $gs-AE_a(Z&Z_2)$  for the main group elements including the  $E_a(Pb)$ , 1.1(1) eV assigned to the ground state in 1975 by Chen and Wentworth and electron affinities of the rare gases, N, Be, Mg, Zn, Cd, Hg. [8, 11,12] The exp-NIST experimental data base lists: (eV) C, 1.262114(44); Si, 1.389517(44); Ge, 1.232713(44); Sn, 1.112074(44); Pb, 0.365(8). The  $E_a(Pb)$  0.365(8) is assigned to an excited state analogous to those of Si, 0.597, Ge, 0.401, Sn, 0.397. The remaining  $gs-E_a(Z)$  are the largest experimental values in exp-NIST. [4]

The 1953R noted that the N(-) ion had been observed in the gas phase. The 2002R listed  $AE_a(N)$ : (eV) -0.32, 0.18, 0.30, 0.38, 0.60, 0.75 and  $AE_a(Be)$ : (eV) -0.19, 0.31, -0.38, -0.25, -0.03, 0.27. The  $AE_a(N)$ , 0.75 eV, equal to the  $AE_a(H)$  and  $AE_a(P)$  and the  $AE_a(Be)$ , 0.29 eV equal to the  $AE_a(B)$  were assigned to the ground states. The NIST database of theoretical values, t-NIST lists only negative electron affinities for He, Ne, A, Zn, H<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>. The t-NIST also gives: (eV)  $AE_a(N)$  -8 to 0; 0 to 0.75; 0.75 to 3.0 and  $AE_a(Be)$  -6 to 0; 0 to 0.35; 0.35 to 1. The theoretical values larger than those for the ground state are overestimates and the negative values are assigned to excited states following Lesk and Efimov.

Except for O<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>, the benchmark  $AE_a(Z_2)$  were assigned to the ground states. In 2004, Herder reproduced the benchmark  $AE_a$  for F<sub>2</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub>, Br<sub>2</sub>, and I<sub>2</sub> using CURES-EC. [21] The  $AE_a(H_2)$ , 0.38 eV (from  $dN_{Hyl} = -1$ ) was assigned to the ground state in 2013. Here, the  $AE_a(H_2)$ , 0.6 eV, (from  $dN_{Hyl} = -0.5$  and equal to the  $gs-AE_a(N_2)$ , 0.6 eV) is assigned to the ground state. The dissociation energies from the s-AMP give  $AE_a(N_2)$ , 0.6 eV and  $AE_a(H_2)$ , 0.6 eV. The exp-NIST lists multiple  $AE_a(Cl_2)$  that overlap the benchmark, 2.38(10) eV ;  $VE_a$ , 1.02(5) eV and an alkali metal beam value of 3.20(20) eV and multiple  $AE_a(Br_2)$  that overlap the benchmark 2.55 eV;  $VE_a$  1.47 eV and an electron impact value of 2.87(10) eV. The largest values are assigned to the ground states. These assignments yield  $dN_{Hyl}(Cl_2) = (3.20-3.65)/0.377 = -1.19$ , and  $dN_{Hyl}(Br_2) = (2.87- 3.36)/.377 = -1.29$ . The  $dN_{Hyl}(I_2)$ , -1.42 replaces the  $dN_{Hyl}(Cl_2) = (2.38-3.65)/0.377 = -3.37$  as the smallest value. The  $AE_a(Cl_2)$ , 3.20(20) eV overlaps five DF values in 2002R. The new  $gs-AE_a(Br_2)$  2.87(10) eV is significantly lower than overestimates in 2002R and t-NIST. The dissociation energies from the s-AMP procedure support the new ground state values for Cl<sub>2</sub> and Br<sub>2</sub>. The  $gs-AE_a$  for isoelectronic interhalogen diatomics are predicted to be comparable to the values for the homonuclear diatomics. The largest  $AE_a$ : (eV) FCl, 2.86(20); BrI, 2.70(20); ClI, 3.04 eV in exp-NIST, overlap the ground state values for Cl<sub>2</sub> and Br<sub>2</sub>.



The  $AE_a(S_2)$ , 1.57(5) and  $> 2.5(8)$  eV in the exp-NIST overlap the benchmark gs- $AE_a(S_2)$ , 1.67(2) eV. The resulting  $dN_{Hyl} = (1.67-2.08)/.377 = -1.09$  overlaps the  $dN_{Hyl}$  for  $O_2$ ,  $F_2$ ,  $Cl_2$  and  $Br_2$ . The 2002R gives density functional  $AE_a(S_2)$  : (eV) 1.64, 1.72, 1.82, 1.83, 2.27, 2.35. The last two are overestimates since these give positive  $dN_{Hyl}$ . The  $AE_a(S_2)$  in the t-NIST, 0.584 to 1.7 eV can be assigned to multiple states analogous to  $O_2$ . The CURES-EC and s-AMP procedures support these assignments.

### 3.3 The electron affinities of the G2-1 diatomic hydrides and oxides.

The average  $AE_a(CH)$ , 2.1(3) of the 2.6(3) eV in exp-NIST and 1.7(3) eV in the 1953R, is assigned to the ground state. The  $AE_a(CH)$ , 1.238(8) eV and 0.74(5) eV in exp-NIST are assigned to excited states dissociating to  $C(-) + H$  and  $C + H(-)$ . The 2002R cites density functional  $AE_a(CH)$ : (eV), 0.72, 1.13, 0.75, 0.84, 1.33 that overlap these values. The benchmark  $AE_a(SiH)$ , 1.277(9) eV is the only value in exp-NIST. The 2002R gives  $AE_a(SiH)$ : (eV), 1.12, 1.17, 1.30, 1.49, 1.90, 1.90 and the t-NIST values from 0.4 to 3.3 eV. The density functional 1.90 eV is assigned to the ground state and the lower values to excited states by analogy to CH. The larger values in t-NIST are overestimates. The gs- $AE_a$  of the isoelectronic GeH, SnH, PbH estimated to be about 2 eV by analogy to CH are confirmed by CURES-EC..

The only  $AE_a(NH)$ , 0.370(4) eV in the exp-NIST corresponds to a  $dN_{Hyl}$ , -1 for dissociation to  $H(-) + N$  and  $N(-) + H$ . The 2002R lists  $AE_a(NH)$ : (eV) -0.02, 0.45, 0.53, 0.63, 0.89, 1.21 and the t-NIST, values from 0 to 1.236 eV. The  $dN_{Hyl}$ , 1 gives a gs- $AE_a(NH)$  1.13 eV. The  $AE_a(PH)$ ,  $> 0.5(2)$  eV in exp-NIST with  $dN_{Hyl}(H/PH)$ , -1 is assigned to an excited state. The gs- $AE_a(PH)$ , 1.028(1) eV in exp-NIST corresponds to a  $dN_{Hyl}(P/PH)$ , 1. The 2002R lists  $AE_a(PH)$ : (eV) 0.86, 1.02, 1.10, 1.59, 1.72 while the t-NIST gives values from 0 to 3.73 eV. The values greater than 1.028(1) eV are overestimates. The gs- $AE_a$  of the isoelectronic AsH, SbH, BiH estimated to be about 1 eV by analogy to PH are confirmed by CURES-EC.

All of the  $AE_a$  (OH, SH) in the ex-NIST including the 1969 magnetron  $AE_a$ (OH), 1.89(12) eV and  $AE_a$ (SH), 2.298(39) eV overlap the benchmark  $AE_a$ (OH), 1.82767 eV and  $AE_a$ (SH), 2.317(2) eV. An error found in the exp-NIST values is the date of the 2000  $AE_a$ (SH), 2.3182 eV listed as 1900. The 1953R lists Born Haber cycle  $AE_a$  (OH, SH) that overlap the benchmark. The benchmark values correspond to  $dN_{Hyl,(O/OH\&S/SH)}$  about 1. The largest  $AE_a$  for states dissociating to  $Z + H(-)$  are predicted to be about  $0.75 + 0.377 = 1.1$  eV based on the  $dN_{Hyl,(O/OH\&S/SH)}$  about 1. The 2002R lists  $AE_a$ (OH):(eV) 1.81, 2.29, 1.28, 1.92, 2.04, 2.80 and  $AE_a$ (SH): (eV) 2.38, 2.91, 2.13, 2.28, 2.49, 3.08 while the t-NIST cites positive values from near zero to 3.08. The values larger than the benchmarks are overestimates. The gs- $AE_a$  of the isoelectronic SeH, 2.212525(44) eV and TeH, 2.10(2) eV are larger than the values for Se and Te. The electron affinities for SH, SeH, and TeH are confirmed by CURES-EC but not for OH. However, as in the case of superoxide, the anion dissociation energy for OH does reproduce the experimental gs- $AE_a$ (OH).

The exp-NIST cites two values that overlap the benchmark  $AE_a$ (PO), 1.09(1) eV. The t-NIST cites values from 0 to 1.7 eV while the 2002R cites one value larger than the benchmark. The gs- $AE_a$ (PO), 1.09(1) eV and the gs-  $AE_a$ (NO), 0.9 eV give  $dN_{Hyl(O)}$ , -1 and  $dN_{Hyl(N,P)}$ , 0.5. The  $AE_a$ (PO) in t-NIST and 2002R less than 1.1 eV can be assigned to excited state comparable to the values for the isoelectronic NO(-). The  $AE_a$  (PO) in t-NIST and 2002R greater than 1.1 eV are overestimates. The gs- $AE_a$  of the isoelectronic AsO, SbO, BiO estimated to be about 1 eV by analogy to NO and PO are confirmed by CURES-EC.

### 3.4 The electron affinities of CN.

The exp-NIST lists three values that overlap the benchmark  $AE_a(\text{CN})$ , 3.682(4) eV, magnetron values 3.16124 and 2.8 eV and an  $AE_a(\text{CN})$ , 5.68(20) eV that contains a typographical error since the article lists only a value of 3.2(2) eV. The 2002R cites  $AE_a(\text{CN})$ : (eV), 4.04, 4.52, 4.04, 3.75, 3.88, 4.47 and the t-NIST -2.5 to 4.2. The values larger than the benchmark are overestimates while the values less than the benchmark, including the negative values can be assigned to excited states. The  $dN_{\text{HyI}}(\text{C}/\text{CN}) = (3.682 - 1.262)/0.377 = 6.42$  is now the largest value for a diatomic surpassing the  $dN_{\text{HyI}}(\text{C}_2)$ , 5.33. The difference between the MGN and benchmark value,  $3.682 - 3.161 = 0.521\text{eV}$  is the same as the difference for the  $gs-E_a(\text{C}) - E_a(\text{N}) = 1.262 - 0.75 = 0.51\text{ eV}$  giving the same energy dissociating to  $\text{C} + \text{N}(-)$  as to  $\text{C}(-) + \text{N}$ . The  $gs-AE_a$  of the isoelectronic SiN, GeN, SnN, PbN estimated to be about 3.5 eV by analogy to CN are confirmed by CURES-EC.

### 3.5 Herschbach Ionic Morse Person Electron Curves.

In the 1960's, Herschbach calculated Morse potentials for diatomic halogen anions following W. B. Person. In his Nobel lecture, he recalled the classifications using the signs of the energy for dissociative electron attachment,  $E_{\text{dea}} = D_e(\text{AB}) - E_a(\text{A or B})$ ,  $VE_a$  and the  $D_e[\text{AB}(-)]$  that resulted in some impossible cases since the  $D_e[\text{AB}(-)]$  is always greater than zero. We replaced the  $D_e[\text{AB}(-)]$  by the  $AE_a[\text{AB}]$  to defines  $2^3 = 8$  possible groups now designated Herschbach Ionic Morse Person Electron Curves, HIMPEC. [1,25,26] The neutral potentials and HIMPEC are:

$$U(\text{AB}) = D_e(\text{AB}) - 2 D_e(\text{AB}) \exp(-\beta(r - r_e)) + D_e(\text{AB}) \exp(-2\beta(r - r_e)) \quad (1)$$

$$U(\text{AB}^-) = D_e(\text{AB}) - 2k_A D_e(\text{AB}) \exp(-k_B \beta (r - r_e)) + k_R D_e(\text{AB}) \exp(-2k_B \beta (r - r_e)) - E_a(\text{B or A}) \quad (2)$$

$\beta = m_e (2\pi^2 \mu / D_e[\text{AB}])^{1/2}$ ,  $\mu$ , is the reduced mass, the  $r_e$  are the internuclear distance,  $r$ , at the minimum in the potentials. The HIMPEC are also Morse potentials with the parameters:  $D_e(\text{AB}[-]) / D_e(\text{AB}) = [k_A^2 / k_R]$ ;  $r_e(\text{AB}[-]) - r_e(\text{AB}) = [\ln(k_R / k_A)] / [k_B \beta(\text{AB})]$ ;  $v_e(\text{AB}[-]) / v_e(\text{AB}) = [k_A k_B / k_R]^{1/2}$ . The  $E_a$ ,  $VE_a$  and  $E_{\text{dea}}$  and /or other data give the dimensionless constants  $k_A$ ,  $k_B$  and  $k_R$ .

The present evaluation methods were used to report the electron affinities of NO and O<sub>2</sub> illustrated by HIMPEC in Figure 1. Dinu and co-workers identified 12 hyperfine states of superoxide from the competition between photodetachment and photodissociation from only the  $v=0$  levels of the  $^2\Pi_{3/2,1/2}$ , C state. The HIMPEC for the hyperfine X  $^2\Pi$ , A  $^2\Delta$ , B  $^2\Sigma$ , C  $^2\Pi$ , D  $^2\Sigma$ , E  $^2\Sigma$ , and f  $^4\Pi$  states from the  $AE_a(\text{O}_2)$  are referenced to zero at infinite separation while those in Figure 1 are referenced to the zero at the internuclear distance of the neutral. The Morse parameters assumed to be the same for each of the hyperfine states dissociate to the atomic hyperfine limits separated by 0.05 eV for each spin state.

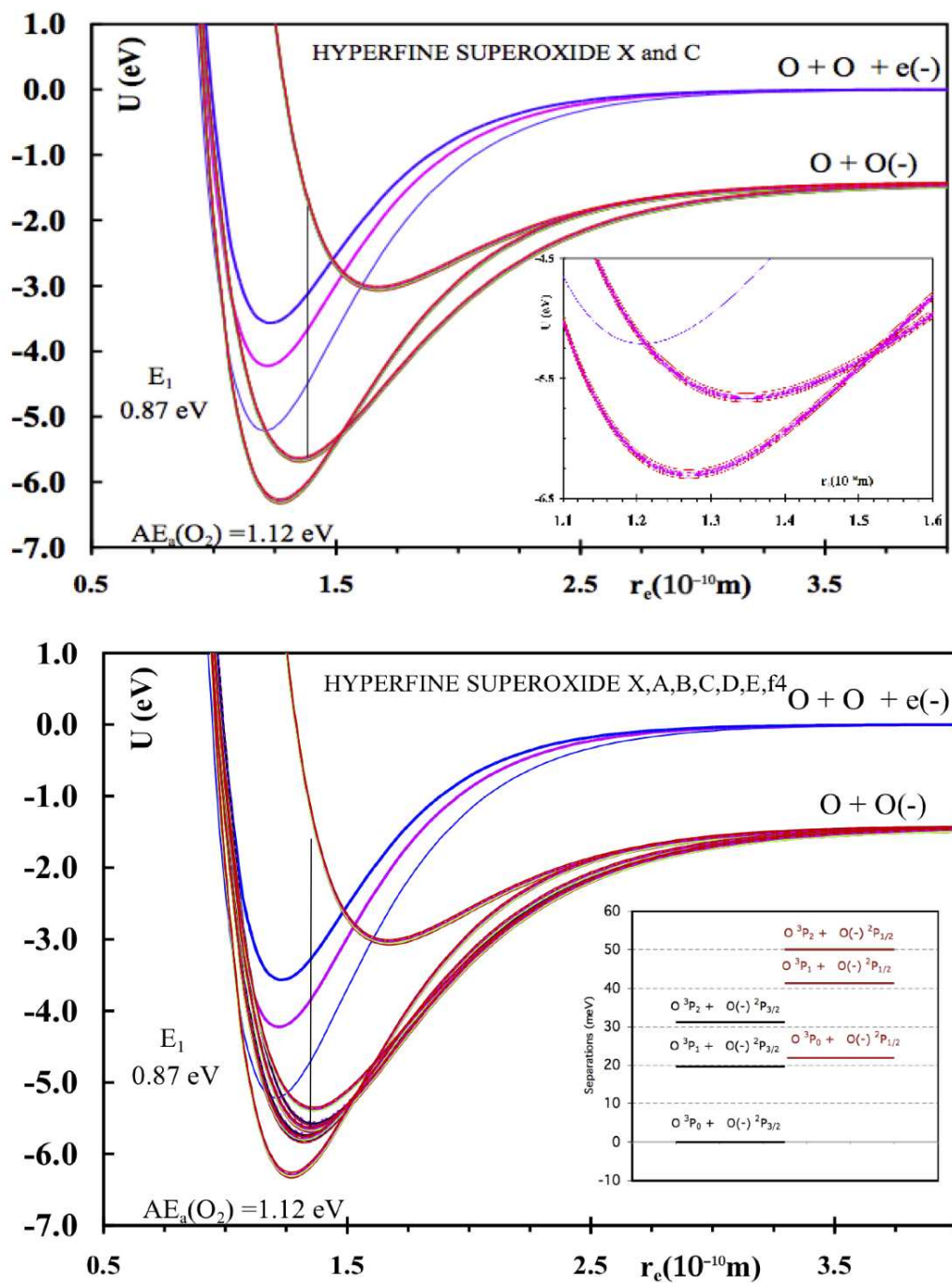


Figure 7 HIMPEC for hyperfine X  $^2\Pi$ , A $^2\Delta$ , B  $^2\Sigma$ , C  $^2\Pi$ , D  $^2\Sigma$ , E  $^2\Sigma$ , and f4  $^4\Pi$  states and the antibonding I4 state leading to the photodissociation data given by Dinu and co-workers in ref. 28. The lower inset is an expansion of the six limits from Ref. 29. These curves can be compared to those in Fig. 1 showing the 54 spin orbital states.

At present it is generally assumed that  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  cannot form valence state anions more stable than the neutral, even at very low temperatures. However, this is not supported by the quantum mechanical theorem presented by Lesk. The parameters for the bonding anions of  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  were obtained using s-AMP. The bonding HIMPEC for  $H_2(-)$  and  $N_2(-)$  shown in Fig. 6 are to our knowledge the first such Morse potentials. The bonding curve for  $N_2(-)$  is calculated from parameters obtained from the s-AMP PM3(5200) calculation that also gives an  $AE_a(N)$ , 0.75 eV in agreement with the largest density functional value in the 2002R. Also shown are curves giving an  $AE_a(N_2)$ , slightly larger than zero. This corresponds to an Efimov like state dissociating to a limit of  $N + N + e(-)$  or  $N + N(-)$ . The antibonding curve calculated by Flores from electron scattering data in 1985 was published in his Master's thesis entitled "Negative Ion States for  $H_2(-)$  and the second row homonuclear diatomics" [56]

Brandon Jordon-Thaden and co-workers recently observed long lived anions of  $H_2$ , and  $D_2$  with two distributions, one due to dissociation and one due to detachment reminiscent of the work by Dinu and co-workers on superoxide. Srivastava and co-workers have calculated ab-initio curves for  $H_2(-)$  and summarized the earlier work. [57, 58] A more detailed discussion of the vast amount of theoretical and experimental work on the characterization of  $H_2(-)$  is clearly beyond the scope of this article. However, the support for the existence of multiple anion states is clearly pertinent. Flores calculated antibonding HIMPEC for  $H_2(-)$  using data published before 1985 including the  $AE_a(H_2)$ , -1 eV. [58] The long range state with a small positive  $AE_a(H_2)$  is an Efimov like state. The s-AMP procedure yields a maximum dissociation energy for  $H_2(-)$ , 4.6 eV that gives a gs- $AE_a(H_2)$ , 0.6 eV. The bonding HIMPEC for  $H_2(-)$  uses the s-AMP parameters with a smaller internuclear distance to provide a "back-side crossing of the anion and neutral.

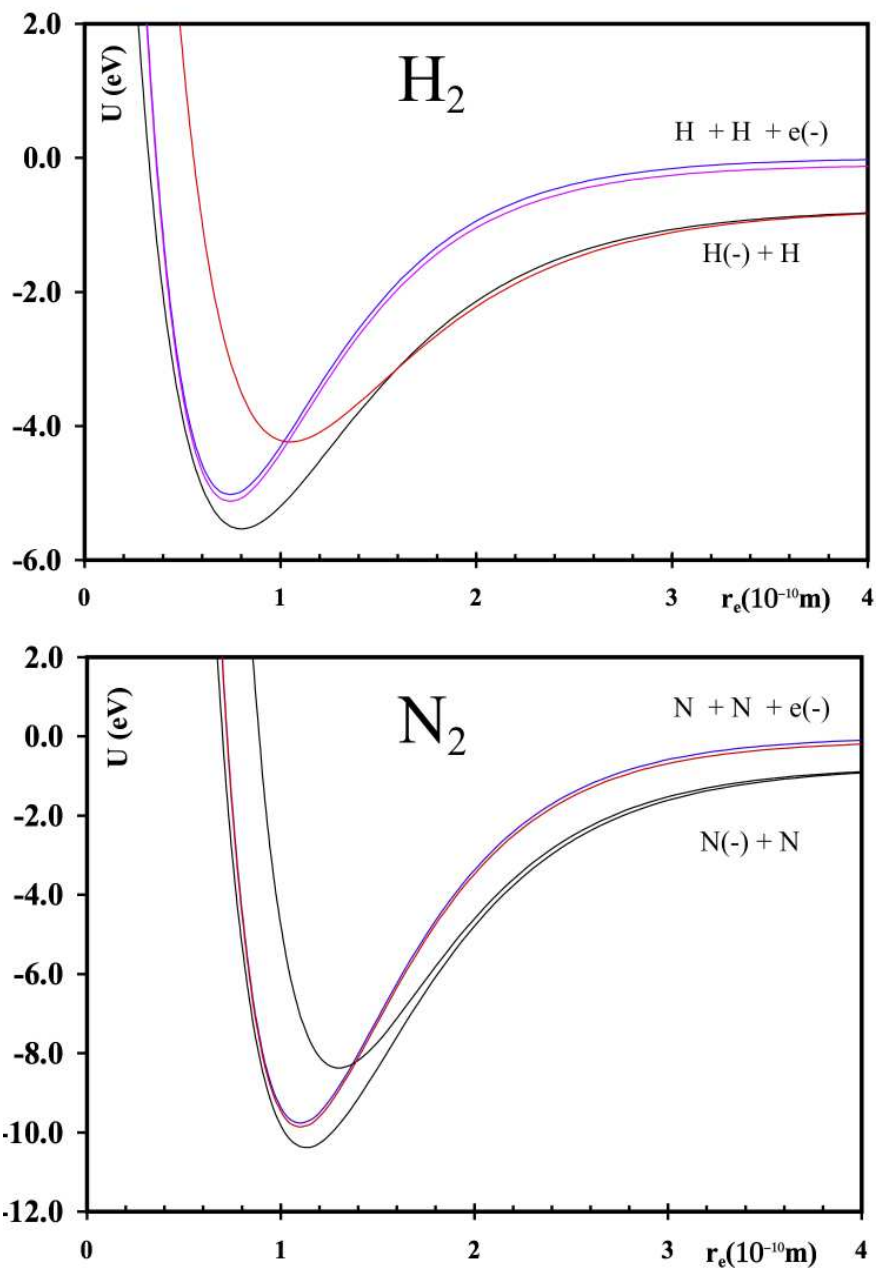


Fig. 8 Neutral and anion Morse potentials for  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  calculated from dissociation energies for anions for both from the s-AMP method, from long range positive electron affinities for both following Efimov. The CURES-EC electron affinity of  $N_2$  is 0.6 eV.

#### 4.0 Conclusions and future work

The major conclusion of this work is that there are a multitude of negative ion states with positive electron affinities so that theoretical electron affinities should be compared to more than one benchmark. The three body  $Z(+)+2e(-)$  and  $A+B+e(-)$  systems support an infinite number of stable anions following Efimov, and the limit to the gs-electron affinity is zero following Lesk. For di and polyatomic anions, the limit to the anion dissociation energy is zero allowing for negative excited state electron affinities such as for  $SF_n(-)$  ( $n=1-6$ ), the nucleobase anions and other organic molecules evaluated by this laboratory. Other conclusions are:

- (a) the gs- $AE_a$  shown in Table 3 are the largest experimental values: (eV)  $O_2$ , 1.120(5),  $S_2$ , 1.67(2);  $F_2$ , 3.08(7),  $Cl_2$ , 3.2(2);  $Br_2$ , 2.87(14);  $CH$ , 2.1(2);  $OH$ , 1.82767,  $SH$ , 2.317(2);  $PH$ , 1.028(1);  $CN$ , 3.682(4);  $NO$ , 0.93(1);  $PO$ , 1.09(1);  $SF_6$ , 3.0(2) or the largest predicted  $AE_a$  : (eV)  $N$ , 0.75;  $H_2$ , 0.6 ;  $N_2$ , 0.6;  $NH$ , 1.1,  $SiH$ , 1.90.
- (b) theoretical electron affinities in Table 3 larger than the ground state value are overestimates
- (c) the gs- $AE_a$  of isoelectronic species can be predicted from the above values
- (d) multiple electron affinities predicted by electron correlation rules can be accurately reproduced by theoretical methods.

The present work can be extended to other polyatomic molecules. The 2002R lists five density functional  $AE_a$  for 15 atoms, including N, Cl and Br, and 108 molecules compared to one experimental benchmark and five density functional  $AE_a$  for one atom, Be, and 41 molecules without any benchmarks. The gs- $AE_a$  of the 16 atoms, 11 diatomics and  $SF_6$  in 2002R, were assigned in this article. This leaves many other density functional values to be considered. The exp-NIST contains multiple  $AE_a$  of many species that should be used as benchmarks for theoretical calculations. A paper identifying all of the positive hyperfine  $AE_a(O_2)$  has recently been accepted for publications. [59]



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Attributions: The Morse potentials for N<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> anions were calculated using HIMPEC procedures developed by Flores for the diatomic anions of the second row atoms. The PDECD data and development of the CURES-EC method were carried out by Herder. The development of s-AMP method and the collection of the cyclic voltammetry data were carried out by Pai. The new applications of the theoretical methods were carried out by Pham, Lim, Rosenthal. Herder, Pai, Lim, Rosenthal and Pham were Wentworth Scholars and Lim and Rosenthal were HYPERCHEM Scholars who conducted research under the direction of Chen, Chen, and Keith. The paper was written by the latter and has been examined by all of the authors. The support of Hypercube and the Wentworth Foundation is appreciated by the authors.

**Table 1** Oxygen: Activation energies,  $E_1$ ,  $dN_{\text{Hyl}}$  and Electron Affinities,  $E_a$ 

State	$E_1$ (eV)	$AE_a$ (eV)	$dN_{\text{Hyl}}$	State	$E_1$ (eV)	$AE_a^a$ (eV)	$dN_{\text{Hyl}}$
X1 $^2\Pi_{3/2}$	0.89	1.070(2)	[-1.00]	F1 $^2\Pi_{3/2}$	1.6	-1.62	[-8.00]
X2 $^2\Pi_{1/2}$	0.87	1.050(2)	-1.08	F2 $^2\Pi_{1/2}$	1.6	-1.64	-8.22
a1- $^4\Sigma_{3/2}^-$	0.84	0.960(2)	-1.33	g1- $^4\Sigma_{3/2}^-$	1.7	-1.75	-8.51
a2- $^4\Sigma_{1/2}^-$	0.82	0.940(2)	-1.38	g2- $^4\Sigma_{1/2}^-$	1.7	-1.77	-8.56
b1- $^4\Delta_{7/2}$	0.68	0.787(2)	-1.78	h1- $^4\Delta_{7/2}$	1.9	-1.92	-8.97
b2- $^4\Delta_{5/2}$	0.68	0.751(2)	-1.88	h2- $^4\Delta_{5/2}$	1.9	-1.97	-9.07
b3- $^4\Delta_{3/2}$	0.68	0.725(2)	-1.94	h3- $^4\Delta_{3/2}$	1.9	-1.99	-9.13
b4- $^4\Delta_{1,2}$	0.66	0.705(2)	[-2.00]	h4- $^4\Delta_{1,2}$	2.0	-2.01	[-9.00]
c1- $^4\Sigma_{3/2}$	0.68	0.755(2)	-1.87	i1- $^4\Sigma_{3/2}$	2.0	-1.96	-9.06
c2- $^4\Sigma_{1/2}$	0.68	0.735(2)	-1.92	i2- $^4\Sigma_{1/2}$	2.1	-1.98	-9.10
A1- $^2\Delta_{5/2}$	0.48	0.601(1)	-2.28	G1- $^2\Delta_{5/2}$	2.1	-2.11	-9.46
A2- $^2\Delta_{3/2}$	0.48	0.561(1)	-2.38	G2- $^2\Delta_{3/2}$	2.1	-2.15	-9.57
B- $^2\Sigma_u$	0.27	0.515(2)	-2.50	H- $^2\Sigma_u$	2.2	-2.20	-9.69
C1- $^2\Pi_{3/2}$	0.13	0.450(2)	-2.67	I1- $^2\Pi_{3/2}$	2.3	-2.26	-9.86
C2- $^2\Pi_{1/2}$	0.13	0.430(2)	-2.73	I2- $^2\Pi_{1/2}$	2.3	-2.28	-9.91
D- $^2\Sigma_{1/2}$	0.12	0.415(2)	-2.78	J- $^2\Sigma_{1/2}$	2.3	-2.29	-9.92
E- $^2\Sigma_{1/2}$	0.12	0.355(2)	-2.93	K- $^2\Sigma_{1/2}$	2.4	-2.35	-10.11
d1- $^4\Pi_{5/2}$	0.12	0.312(2)	[-3.00]	j1- $^4\Pi_{5/2}$	2.4	-2.41	[-10.00]
d2- $^4\Pi_{3/2}$	0.10	0.280(2)	-3.13	j2- $^4\Pi_{3/2}$	2.4	-2.44	-10.43
d3- $^4\Pi_{1/2}$	0.10	0.260(2)	-3.18	j3- $^4\Pi_{1/2}$	2.5	-2.46	-10.39
d4- $^4\Pi_{-1/2}$	0.10	0.248(2)	-3.21	j4- $^4\Pi_{-1/2}$	2.5	-2.47	-10.44
e1- $^4\Sigma_{3/2}$		0.08	0.252(2)	-3.20	k1- $^4\Sigma_{3/2}$		2.5
	-2.46	-10.39					
e2- $^4\Sigma_{1/2}$	0.08	0.232(2)	-3.26	k2- $^4\Sigma_{1/2}$	2.5	-2.48	-10.48
f1- $^4\Pi_{5/2}$	0.08	0.212(2)	-3.31	l1- $^4\Pi_{5/2}$	2.6	-2.50	-10.50
f2- $^4\Pi_{3/2}$	0.08	0.180(2)	-3.39	l2- $^4\Pi_{3/2}$	2.6	-2.53	-10.58
f3- $^4\Pi_{1/2}$	0.07	0.160(2)	-3.44	l3- $^4\Pi_{1/2}$	2.6	-2.55	-10.63
f4- $^4\Pi_{-1/2}$		0.07	0.148(2)	[-3.50]	l4- $^4\Pi_{-1/2}$	2.6	-2.56
	[-10.50]						

a. The negative  $AE_a$  are calculated using the assumed  $dN_{\text{Hyl}}$  in brackets and the positive  $AE_a$  The NIST database of theoretical values <http://cccbdb.gov/nist/> lists: 1.008 eV to -1.964 eV. The closest values for the doublet antibonding states are: (eV) -1.585, -1.603, -1.964. A curve for a doublet state with an  $AE_a$ ; -3.39 eV and a double minimum curve for a quartet state with  $AE_a$  -1.8 eV and -2.40 eV are reported in Ref. 44.

Table 2: Nitric Oxide: CURES-EC and experimental electron affinities (eV)

	$E_a$	$E_a(\text{CEC})$	MCCI	$E_a(\text{thermal})$	$E_a(\text{other})$
X, $^3\Sigma$	0.92	0.93	PM3(61UU)t	0.92	0.90
a, $^1\Delta$	0.40	0.40	PM3(3222)s	0.40	0.40
b, $^1\Sigma$	0.16	0.18	PM3(4122)s	0.15	0.17
A', B', $^3\Pi$	0.86	0.86	PM3(6122)t	0.86	0.86
A', B', $^3\Pi$	0.84	0.84	PM3(5100)t	0.85	0.85
A', B', $^3\Pi$	0.82	0.82	PM3(5122)t	0.83	0.80
C', $^3\Sigma$	0.75	0.70	PM3(4100)t	0.75	0.77
D', E', $^3\Delta$	0.67	0.68	PM3(4122)t	0.65	0.68
D', E', $^3\Delta$	0.65	0.68	PM3(4122)t	0.65	0.68
D', E', $^3\Delta$	0.63	0.62	PM3(UU00)t	0.63	0.65
F', $^3\Sigma$	0.62	0.62	PM3(UU00)t	0.63	0.60
G', $^3\Sigma$	0.58	0.60	PM3(0000)t	0.60	0.57
H', I', $^3\Pi$	0.53	0.51	PM3(0022)t	0.50	0.57
H', I', $^3\Pi$	0.51	0.51	PM3(0022)t	0.50	0.57
H', I', $^3\Pi$	0.49	0.51	PM3(0022)t	0.50	0.46
a', $^1\Pi$	0.45	0.43	PM3(6200)s	0.45	0.46
b', $^1\Pi$	0.43	0.43	PM3(6200)s	0.45	0.40
c', $^1\Delta$	0.35	0.35	PM3(6222)s	0.35	0.40
d', $^1\Sigma$	0.29	0.30	PM3(3200)s	0.27	0.27
e', $^1\Sigma$	0.25	0.22	PM3(3222)s	0.25	0.27
f', $^1\Sigma$	0.20	0.19	PM3(4100)s	0.20	0.17
J', K', $^3\Pi$	0.14	0.11	PM3(3100)t	0.11	0.10
J', K', $^3\Pi$	0.12	0.11	PM3(3100)t	0.10	0.10
J', K', $^3\Pi$	0.10	0.11	PM3(3100)t	0.08	0.10
L', $^3\Sigma$	0.026	0.04	PM3(3122)t	0.05	0.026

Table 3: Assigned ground state electron affinities and density functional values(eV)

	gs-AE <sub>a</sub>	largest Exp	best t-NIST non-DF	R-2002 Density Functional					
				B3LYP	B3P86	BHLYP	BLYP	BP86	LSDA
H	0.75419	0.75419	0.728(CCS-D-T)	0.84	1.31	0.62	0.75	0.93	1.23
Be	0.29	0+	0.890(MP2-SDD)	-0.19	0.31	-0.38	-0.25	-0.03	0.27
N	0.75	-0.07	0.75(avg of several)	0.18	0.60	-0.32	0.30	0.38	0.75
H <sub>2</sub>	0.6	0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N <sub>2</sub>	0.6	0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
O <sub>2</sub>	1.120(5)	1.120	0.498(CBS-Q)	0.63	1.06	0.36	0.62	0.65	1.08
S <sub>2</sub>	1.67(2)	1.67(2)	1.68(G4)	1.82	2.32	1.72	1.64	1.83	2.27
F <sub>2</sub>	3.08(7)	3.08(7)	3.07(multiple)	3.77	4.10	3.56	3.72	3.67	3.84
Cl <sub>2</sub>	3.2(2)	3.2(2)	2.99(MP2)	3.27	3.69	3.13	3.16	3.23	3.42
Br <sub>2</sub>	2.87(14)	2.87(14)	2.87(avg of several)	3.12	3.56	3.02	2.97	3.07	3.29
CH	2.1(2)	2.1(2)	1.279(MP2-aug-cc-pVQZ)	1.36	1.94	1.06	1.33	1.59	2.13
SiH	1.90	1.277(9)	1.24(G4)	1.30	1.90	1.15	1.17	1.49	1.90
NH	1.13	0.370(4)	0.355(G4)	-0.02	0.45	0.53	0.63	0.89	1.21
PH	1.028(1)	1.028(1)	1.02(CBS-Q)	1.10	1.59	0.86	1.02	1.20	1.72
OH	1.82767	1.82767	1.83(avg of several)	1.81	2.29	1.28	1.92	2.04	2.80
SH	2.317(2)	2.317(2)	2.38(CBS-Q)	2.38	2.91	2.13	2.28	2.49	3.08
CN	3.682(4)	3.682(4)	3.68(avg of several)	4.04	4.52	4.04	3.75	3.88	4.47
NO	0.93(1)	0.93(1)	0.467(MP2)	0.53	0.97	0.36	0.43	0.52	0.96
PO	1.09(1)	1.09(1)	1.09 (G3)	0.45	0.95	0.24	0.95	1.16	1.53
SF <sub>6</sub>	3.0(2)	3.0(2)		2.66	2.83	1.61	3.22	3.00	2.85

The theoretical values larger than the ground state value are overestimates. The negative values are for excited states.

## Figure Captions

Fig. 1: Neutral and anionic one dimensional Morse potential energy curves of energy vs internuclear separation referenced to the neutral dissociation energy = 0 and thermal data for NO and O<sub>2</sub> plotted as  $\ln KT^{3/2}$  vs  $1000/T$  from refs. 14-18,21,31,32,41,42.

Fig. 2: PDECD equipment used by Herder in 2004 from refs. 2,17,21.

Fig. 3 Experimental data illustrating the identification, and assignment of valence state and long range electron affinities of oxygen: photodetachment-58 data from ref 30; electron impact data from ref. 33; CV and thermal data from refs. 14-18,23, 24, 30, 31 and photoelectron spectra from refs. 3,20,38,39. The X axes for all but the CV and thermal data are energies in eV and the Y axes are ion currents and cross sections in arbitrary units. The electron impact data ion yield of  $m/z = 30$  and  $32$  from the electron impact of NO<sub>2</sub> vs energy from ref. 33. The thermal data are plots of  $\ln KT^{3/2}$  vs  $1000/T$ . The CV are plots of current vs potential from ref. 23.

Fig. 4: Photo dissociation data from reference 28 and hyperfine structure of O(-) from reference 29. The atomic hyperfine structure separated by about 20 meV are lined up with the major peaks in the photodissociation curves demonstrating that the dominant dissociation occurs from the C state of superoxide. Also shown are minor peaks at the B, D, and E hyperfine states.

Fig. 5: Hyperfine electron affinities of  $O_2$  from cyclic voltammograms. The sources of the data and axes are given in Fig. 3 . The identification of the hyperfine state were carried out using the high resolution atomic data in Fig. 4.

Fig: 6 Hyperfine electron affinities of  $O_2$  (top) from NPES-72, 95 and NPES-02 and (bottom) from  $m/z = 32$  from electron impact on  $NO_2$ . The sources of the data and axes are given in Fig. 3 . The identification of the hyperfine states were carried out using the high resolution atomic data in Fig. 4.

Fig. 7: HIMPEC for hyperfine  $X^2\Pi$ ,  $A^2\Delta$ ,  $B^2\Sigma$ ,  $C^2\Pi$ ,  $D^2\Sigma$ ,  $E^2\Sigma$ , and  $f^4\Pi$  states and the antibonding  $I_4$  state leading to the photodissociation data given by Dinu and co-workers in ref. 28. The lower inset is an expansion of the six limits from Ref. 29. These curves can be compared to those in Fig. 1 showing the 54 spin orbital states.

Fig. 8: Neutral and anion Morse potentials for  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  calculated from dissociation energies for anions for both from the s-AMP method, from long range positive electron affinities for both following Efimov. The CURES-EC electron affinity of  $N_2$  is 0.6 eV.