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## **Autoionization Level Shifts as an Estimator for Local Field**

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Direct estimation of the electric field in the cathode discharge zones is achieved by optogalvanic spectroscopy. Stark level shifts above  $12 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  have been calculated in Ne and Ar noble gas atoms near the cathode walls in Ne and Ar hollow cathode discharge tubes. Fields of the order of 5 kV/cm are estimated.