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EJECTED ELECTRON SPECTRA FROM AUTOIONIZATION REGION IN NEON AT INCIDENT ELECTRON ENERGY OF 505 EV AND EJECTION ANGLES OF 40° AND 130°

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In the present work we have studied autoionizing states and resonances in neon atom, in the energy region of ejected electrons from 21 to 30 eV (42.56 to 51.56 eV of excitation energy), at the constant incident electron energy of 505 eV and two ejection angles of 40° and 130° with respect to the incident beam direction. The measurements have been carried out on a high-resolution crossed electron-atom beam apparatus, allowing to resolve both singlet and triplet states. Furthermore, we found that the shape of spectral features close to the resonances strongly depend on the ejection angle.

1. Introduction

Autoionization states and resonances in neon have been studied in the past by electrons, photons and ions but with luck of theoretical calculations comparing to calculations in helium. Especially, the energy region from 43 to 51 eV of excitation energies has been studied by low energy electrons [1] as well as by high energy electron using energy-loss spectroscopy at zero scattering angle [2,3]. Also, the resonances in this energy region have been studied in the past using low energy electrons as projectiles [4]. Here we present measurements of autoionizing states and resonances in neon at constant incident electron energy of 505 eV and two ejection angles of 40° and 130° with respect to the incident beam direction in order to show the angular behavior of excited states.

2. Experimental Set-up

The measurements have been carried out on a crossed electron-atom beam apparatus OHRHA [5] which involves an electron gun that can be rotated around analyzer axis, electrostatic lenses, a hemispherical analyzer with 7 channeltrons as detectors and an interaction region with a gas needle as an atomic source. The energy resolution of the ejected electron spectra was measured as full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the narrowest feature in the spectrum and was typically between 60 and 80 meV.

3. Results

The results of measurements are shown in figure 1. We present the ejected electron spectra with subtracted background without any normalization of the obtained data measured at two different ejection angles of 40° and 130° . The high energy resolution is demonstrated in the separation between triplet and singlet states of 0.1 eV. The difference in form of the measured spectral features for the two ejection angles is clearly visible from the figure. Two series of triplet and singlet $2s2p^{6}ns,np$ excited states could be assigned. There are also several dominant resonances. The calibration point was taken from the mixture of helium and neon at 505 eV identifying the well known $(2s2p)^{1}P$ state in autoionization region of helium at 35.54 eV (60.13 eV of excitation energy) [6]. The autoionizing states have been assigned according to the reference [7]. The positions of resonances from literature [4] are shown at the bottom of the figure. Most of the resonances measured at low incident electron energy are not seen in our ejection spectra except two of them at 22 eV (R1), and 27.54 eV (R2) indicating that they belong to the class of non-valence resonances already seen in helium [8,9].



Fig. 1. Ejected electron spectra of autoionizing states of neon obtained at the excitation electron energy of 505 eV and the ejection angles of 40° and 130° labeled on the left hand side of the figure. The energy region of ejected electrons is from 20.5 to 30.5 eV or 42.06 to 52.06 eV of excitation energy with energy width per channel of 0.020 eV. Long vertical lines show energy positions of the features, while short vertical lines at the bottom of the figure mark positions of resonances from literature [4].

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