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Near-threshold electron-impact excitation of the 3^3S and 3^1S states of Helium. M. STEPANOVIC, M. MINIC, J. JURETA, J. KUREPA, Institute of Physics, Beograd, Serbia and Montenegro, D. CVEJANOVIC, University of Western Australia, S. CVEJANOVIC, University of Rijeka, Croatia, OLEG ZATSARINNY, KLAUS BARTSCHAT, Drake University — A joint experimental and theoretical study of near-threshold electron-impact excitation of the 3^3S and 3^1S states in helium is reported. A high-resolution electron spectrometer was used to study integral cross sections in the energy region of the n=3-5 negative-ion resonances. Photons were detected from the decay of the two states and the observed intensities were normalised to theoretical predictions from a new B-spline R-matrix (close-coupling) method, which allows for non-orthogonal orbitals to improve the target description. Remarkable agreement between experiment and theory is demonstrated in both the overall energy dependence of the cross section and the fine details of a wealth of resonance structures. A detailed list of the resonances in the individual partial waves, along with their widths, will be presented.

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Klaus Bartschat Drake University

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