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An Improved RMPS Approach to Ground and Metastable Ionization of Neutral Neon¹ C.P. BALLANCE, M.S. PINDZOLA, Auburn University, D.C. GRIFFIN, Rollins College — The large ground state ionization potential of neutral neon has traditionally made it difficult for non-perturbative basis-set methods, such as the RMPS, to calculate the ground state ionization cross section from the ionization threshold to its peak value. Current developments in the parallel Rmatrix suite of codes (see Ballance and Griffin, JPB **37**, 2943 (2004)) in conjunction with the ICFT method have allowed both electron-impact ground and metastable term and level-resolved ionization cross sections to be calculated in a very efficient manner. We shall present electron-impact ionization cross sections from the ground state and $1s^22s^22p^5nl(n < 6)$ metastables, comparing with available experiments. We shall also investigate differences between initial term and level-resolved cross sections.

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