# ENERGY LEVELS IN Coeo

George Melvin Foglesong and David Guy Foxwell









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Submitted to the Department of Physics on May 24, 1954 in

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Master of Science

### ABSTRACT

Proton groups from the reaction Co<sup>59</sup>(d,p)Co<sup>60</sup> were examined in order to determine the ground state u-value and the excitation energies of the lower lying excited states of Co<sup>60</sup>. Platinum-backed naturally mono-isotopic cobalt targets were bombarded with magnetically analyzed deuteron beams from the MT-ONR Van de Graaff generator, and the protons emerging at 90° to the incident beam were analyzed by a 180° focusing magnetic superrograph and photographically detected.

The targets were made by vacuum evaporating cobalt pellets onto platinum sheets cleaned with bydrochloric acid. The high boiling point of cobalt required the use of a technique of pinching the pellets between sharpened carbon electrodes. Spectro-chemical analysis of the cobalt showed impurities of nickel, magnesium, and copper, with lesser amounts of other metals. Known levels in nickel and magnesium could be identified with smaller proton groups, but, owing to the rather high background and density of levels, not conclusively. Levels assigned to cobalt were confirmed by noting the variation of the proton group emergies with deuteron energy. Bombarding energies of 5.0 and 5.8 New were used.

The ground state 4-value was measured as  $5.280 \pm 0.008$  Mev. The metastable state, observed in beta- and gamma-ray decay measurements at  $58.5 \pm .5$  kev and seen here for the first time in any nuclear reaction, was measured as  $60 \pm 3$  kev. Other low lying excited states agree with these previously determined by (n, 3)

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reactions, and further identify the most one, the gamm-ray seen in these reactions as being that to the ground state of  $Co^{60}$ . The higher excited at tes, while in poor agreement with the corresponding  $(n, \mathcal{J})$  results, showed a complex level structure, as was expected for this odd-odd nucleus, and as a indicated in the  $(n, \mathcal{J})$ work.

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### I. INTRODUCTION

M.I.T. Van de Graaff generators have been used extensively over the past few years to obtain precise information on the nuclear energy levels of various light and intermediate nuclei. These accelerators, when coupled with magnetic momentum analyzers and magnetic spectrographs, provide data of a high degree of accuracy and resolution. The concentration of effort has been on light nuclei, where it is felt that the relatively few nucleons should lend themselves to a detailed treatment of nuclear forces, particularly if some of them can be grouped into closed shells. The emergence of isobaric polyad structure has supported the idea of charge independence of nuclear forces, but, to date, only limited success has been achieved in the formulation of a theory of nuclear forces.

The completion of a new scelerator, designated the MIT-ONR Van de Graaff generator, about two years ago extended the available bombarding energy from 2.0 Mev to 8.5 Mev and opened up the possibility of accurate measurements of the energy levels of heavy nuclei. Two specific problems dealing with naturally mono-isotopic nuclei were suggested to the authors by Dr. W. W. Euchner: -hs , ]

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(2) The indeterminancy of the location of the ground state of  $Co^{60}$  in relation to the excited states of  $Co^{60}$  as given by Bartholomew and Kinsey,<sup>3</sup> and the questionable spin assignments of the ground and first excited states of this nucleus.<sup>4</sup>

While the first problem was not solved because of a temporary reduction in the maximum attainable voltage with the MIT-ONR generator, tentative results were promising. In pursuing the Bi<sup>209</sup>(d,p)Bi<sup>210</sup> reaction, preliminary results with a bombarding energy of 8 Mev indicated that previously reported proton groups corresponding to the excited states of Bi<sup>210</sup> could be resolved, and the question of the ground state might well be answered by this approach.

Investigation of the second problem did not require such a high bombarding energy. The most reliable source of information on energy levels in  $Co^{60}$  lies in the  $(n, \gamma)$ work of Bartholomew and Kinsey.<sup>3</sup> While their results indicate relative positions of the excited states, they cannot determine whether their lowest state is attributable to the actual

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ground state or to the well-known metastable state at  $58.9 \pm 5 \text{ kmv}^5$ . Previous  $Co^{60}(d,p)$  analyses, by Bateson and Pollard<sup>6</sup>, Hoesterey<sup>7</sup>, and Harvey<sup>1</sup>, had resulted in ground state assignments in which the ground and first excited states were not resolved. This earlier work had been done with cyclotron deuterons and aluminum foils, and was, by its nature, of moderate accuracy and poor resolution.

The question of the spin assignments of the ground and first excited states was brought up recently by the discovery of a new beta-ray from the ground state of Co60 to the first excited state of Ni<sup>60</sup> as is shown in Figure 1. Keister and Schmidt<sup>4</sup> were led by the shape of the Kurie plot of this beta to the spin and parity assignments of h+ and 1+ to the ground and motastable states of 5060, respectively, in contrast to the generally accepted values of 5+ and 2+. These new assignments, however, cannot be reconciled with the lack of beta decay from the first excited state of Co60 to the ground state of Ni<sup>60</sup>. This question might have been resolved by using the rotatable magnetic spectrograph currently under development for use in conjunction with the MIT-ONR generator. The angular distribution of the protons and, from Butler's theory9. the orbital angular momentum of the captured neutrons might have led to unarbiguous spin assignments, as is outlined in Appendix A. Unfortunately, the new spectro-

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ENERGY LEVEL DIAGRAM SHOWING DECAY SCHEME OF Co<sup>60</sup>

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graph was not completed in time to include such an analysis in this work.

The problem, then, was to determine the 4-value of the  $Co^{59}(d,p)Co^{60}$  reaction to the ground state of  $Co^{60}$ , with a secondary purpose of checking the levels of excitation against those previously seen, particularly those levels about which Bartholomew and Kinsey were in doubt.

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### 11. DESC IPTIC O APT HATUS AND TARG T IL ARATION

### A. AF ARATUS

The MIT-GNR Van de Graaff generator, used as the source of deuterons for the  $00^{59}(d,p)00^{60}$  reaction, is shown schematically in Figure 2. Its salient features include a pressurized tank designed for 400 psi, two 18 foot accelerating tubes (of one-inch-thick glass), a string controlled RP ion source capable of ionizing hydrogen, deuterium, or helium, a focus voltage supply capable of providing 40-00 kv, and a controlled corons discharge grid. The deuteron beam is deflected through  $90^{\circ}$  by an analyzing magn t, after which it strikes the target in the spectrograph (Figure 3).

The energy of the deuteron beam is defined and controlled by means of a one nm slit 90 cm above the analyzing megnet and a 1/2 mm slit 185 cm beyond the analyzing magnet. A given magnetic field in the analyzer determines the momentum of a charged particle which will pass through the slit system. The difference between the currents to the upper and lower exit slits is amplified and this signal is used to control the voltage in the corona discharge grid, thus providing terminal voltage control. This control is astisfactory for terminal voltages down to about 4.5 MeV. The analyzing magnet can be rotated about a vertical axis so as

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VAN DE GRAAFF GENERATOR ACCELERATING TUBE ANALYZER MAGNETIC Figure 3 TARGET CHAMBER CAMERA FLUXMETER OSCILLATOR SPECTOGRAPH -180° MAGNETIC

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VAN DE GRAAFF GENERATOR ACCELERATING TUBE ANALYZER DITENDAM . Figure 3 TARGET CHAMBER CAMERA OSCILLATOR RELOXWELEN SPECTOGRAPH ~ ISO. WYCHELIC


to deflect particles either to a fixed, 180° focusing magnetic spectrograph, which observes reaction products only at 90° from the incident beam, or to the new rotatable spectrograph. Only the fixed magnet was used in this work.

The fixed magnetic spectrograph is fitted with entrance slits to define the beam position and energy, and a Faraday bucket arrangement for measuring beam curr t. The bottom of the annular magnet is slotted to accept the incident particles. A detailed account of this spectrograph is given by Strait.<sup>10</sup>

The charged particles from the nuclear reaction which emerge in the acceptance angle of the spectrograph are deflected with a radius proportional to their momentum and recorded on a 1" X 2" Eastman NTA nuclear track plate placed in a slot along the top of the magnet. These track plates are positioned with their long dimension vertical and with the normal to the emulsion at about 70° from the incident particles in a carriage which can hold, and position in turn, five such plates. A light, prism, and alit arrangement is available to "index" the plates at a fixed vertical position.

The magnetic fields in the analyzing and spectrographic magnets are determined by a nuclear resonance technique,

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utilizing the known gyromagnetic ratio of the Li<sup>7</sup> nucleus. Each magnet is equipped with a high frequency oscillator whese loading coil surrounds a capsule of a lithium salt solution placed in the field. In operation the oscillator is "sero-beated" with a secondary frequency standard and the current to the magnet is increased until the oscillator cutput is decreased, indicating resonance. Resonance is observed by sweeping the field in the vicinity of the capsule with a weak 60 cycle field and displaying the detected output of the oscillator on the v rtical sweep of an escilloscope which is swept in the horizontal direction with this same 60 cycle signal. When resonance is achieved the oscillator will be loaded twice a cycle with an angular displacement of 180°, and the two depressions on the scope fac will be opposite each other. As the field curr at drifts from the correct value, the angular separation of the two depressions (loadings) will decrease, indicating that magnetic resonance is occurring only near the upper or lower variation of the aveep field. A phase control permits setting a variable phase between the 60 cycle sweep signal and the detected oscillator output, so that the two depressions may be superimposed. The magnet current is adjusted so that signals remain displaced by 180° as the sweep current is made venishingly small. The error intro-

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duced by virtue of the fact that the two depressions are not exactly 180° apart can best be estimated by varying the signals as a function of zero-best frequency. When this is done it seems that the sensitivity of the visual signal is about .5 ke at a frequency of 19.0 me. The zero-best frequency itself, on a reasonably careful run, is kept below 1 ke, so that the reproducibility of the magnetic field at the capsule is in error by about one part in 20,000 (1:20,000).

The known gyro-magnetic ratio of the lithium nucleus is used to determine the magnetic field, assumed to be the effective field experienced by the charged particles. This assumption, which may be in error by perhaps .1%, leads to a very small error in measured momenta, as is seen below. The diameter of the trajectory in the spectrograph from the target spot to the index is determined by use of a poloniumcoated wire at the target position. The BR of polonium alphas is 331.588  $\pm$  .02% kilogauss-cm.<sup>11</sup> The wire to been spacing is measured with a microscope to  $\pm$ .05 mm, and is very small compared to the diameter. The fractional error in magnetic field, dB/B, yields a fractional error,  $dR_{a}/R_{a}$  =-dB/B in the measured radius of the path from polonium wire to the alpha tracks on the emulsion, where  $R_{a}$  = radius of trajectory of alpha particles.

In measuring momenta of charged particles from nuclear

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reactions, the error introduced in then MdR - RdB =-dBR<sub>a</sub> - RdB = dB(-R<sub>a</sub> - R), where R = radius of the trajectory of these particles. We have assumed that dB/B is constant and that dR<sub>a</sub> = dR.

The sverage radius is 35 cm and the useable portion of the emulsion is 3.5 cm, so that the maximum difference  $(R - R_g)$  is .9 cm, or 2.5%. The total error due to nonuniformity of the magnetic field is then less than 1 part in 40,000. It is seen that a 0.1% error in the value of the magnetic moment of the lithium nucleus would lead to an equally negligible error. The validity of the assumption of a constant dB/B may be questioned at high fields (because of the eir gaps and saturation) and this may account for a suspected decrease in accuracy for fields over 13 kilogauss.

## B. TARGET FREPARATION

Thin targets, when bombarded by charged particles, yield the advantage of a sharp group of reaction products, inassuch as the degradation of the energy of the incident particles is slight. A common method of preparing thin metallic targets is by the evaporation in a high vacuum of the desired metal onto a thin (~1000 $\mu$ ) Formvar film. This method becomes difficult with high beiling point metals, and in spite of the adoption of the method used by Schwager and برونی باید باید محمد از مسیره از الانه می باید این الانه مال به مرکزی باید و منتخل از الان الان این الانه این الانه مالای با المراجع باید الانه برداراناند. این این الانه الانه الانه الانه الا منتزوج باید الانها بنای به باید

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Cox<sup>12</sup> to evaporate vanadium, only a limited success was realised with cobalt. The extreme boiling temperature (approximately 3000°C) caused all those Fornvar backings which survived to be extremely brittle, and the explosive nature of the boiling riddled the targets with small holes. Coating the reverse side of the Formvar with gold did not help to any extent. The maximum thickness of cobalt successfully evaporated in this fashion was something less than one-half that required to make a microscope slide opaque to sunlight. These targets, when exposed to deuteron beams of reasonably long exposures, yielded proton groups too weak to reduce the statistical fluctuations to an acceptable value. Recourse was then had to acceptable platinum backed targets. A sheet of platinum about 5 mils thick was carefully cleaned with hydrochloric acid and exposed in a vacuum to vaporised cobalt. Two one-fourth inch carbon electrodes were mounted vertically, with the lower red hollowed out to hold a small piece of cobalt and necked down immediately below to perhaps one-tenth its original area, and the upper rod sharpened to a dull point and pressed down on the cobalt. The platinum was placed much closer than the Formvar had been, and a costing equal to that which was just greater than opeque to sunlight on a microscopic slide was achieved after several evaporations. It may be wondered whether the

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sputtering which previously pierced the Formwar did not spatter the platinum in a random fashion, and such may indeed have been the case, although no evidence of this was seen in the results.

These targets were fixed to small rods and, for bombardment, mounted on a target wheel located just below the slot in the spectrographic magnet. Seven such targets could be nounted on the wheel and any one could then be rotated into the beam without breaking the vacuum. The targets were placed so that their normals were at approximately 50° to the incident beam and 40° to the annular chamber. When solid targets were used, the beam current integrator, developed by Hnge,<sup>13</sup> was connected to the target wheel rather than to the Faraday bucket.

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## III. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

In the process of identifying and measuring the proton groups from cobalt, the first step was to bombard a Formvarbacked target with protons and analyze the elastically scattered proton groups for the mass of the scattering nuclei in order to determine the contaminants. For scattering at 90° from a target initially at rest, we get, nonrelativistically,

$$m = \frac{E_{in}m_{p} + E_{o}m_{p}}{E_{in} - E_{o}}, \quad \text{where } m_{p} = \text{proton mass}$$

E<sub>0</sub>, the energy out, is measured by recording the density of proton tracks per one-half mm (measured radially) along the nuclear track plate, to within .04 mm as the plate is traversed in a vernier-calibrated microscope stage. Frotons, deuterons, and alpha tracks can be distinguished by their length and density of ionization. The index is recorded to the nearest .02 mm. The points then obtained are graphed, a curve is faired through them, and the position of the third height is noted. This position has been found to give the most reproducible results, regardless of peak intensity or target thickness, and the index to third height differences, when measured with different microscopes, have been found to have a probable error of about .15 mm. This distance is then subtracted from the index to beam distance, as measured by the

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polonium alphas, and the result halved to get the radius. The magnetic field is taken as a fixed constant sultiplied by the frequency of the oscillator and, as seen before, this should introduce no significant error. The product of radius and magnetic field, BR, is then converted to proton energy by means of an extensive table calculated from

 $E_p = 4.7698 \times 10^{-11} (BR)^2 - 1.223 \times 10^{-24} (BR)^4$ 

Ein, the energy in, is determined from elastically scattered particles from a known mass such as Co<sup>59</sup>, or O<sup>16</sup>. Figure 4 presents a graphic mass analysis, with the most probable contaminants indicated.

The first known excited state<sup>8</sup> of  $Co^{59}$  is 1.10 MeV, from which level the inelastic protons would have insufficient energy to appear in Figure 4. Those mass numbers between 48 and 80 are not separated from the  $Co^{59}$  peak. It is seen that  $Na^{23}$ ,  $Mg^{24}$ ,  $S^{32}$ ,  $Cl^{35}$  and  $K^{39}$  are present. A spectrochemical analysis of the cobalt pellets indicated the following contaminants:

			NI.	TOM	to	•±%
	Hg	and	Gui	1%	to	.01%
Ca,	Fe,	and	Ens	.1%	to	.001

Ag, Al, B, Ba, Cr, Si, and Zn: less than .01%

The sodium, potassium, and sulphur, seen in the mass analysis of a Formvar target, probably originate in the Formvar

polynomic finne, and the second billeok to get the reduce. The experite theid is value of a fixed constant and thefted in the freeworks of the predicter and, as seen before, this should become to Highlither street. The probable of reduce and aspectic track, in, is then converted to probable wings by

Ly = 4.7999 a 20"2 (m) - 1.27 = 30" (m)

No. 2% marge in, is demonion then distinging to a contraction of the second sec

The flave bases weeken store of of 11 LLD has, from which have be induced protons would now constitution accept to by one to Rights in These and and access tokened it and it has and spectrical from ine co<sup>50</sup> peak. It is note that of <sup>20</sup>, a<sup>21</sup>, i<sup>2</sup>, j<sup>3</sup>, and j<sup>2</sup> are errored. A spectrum sould be uniquite of the density will be belower the failing and an analysis and pair of a star because to be failed and the behavior of the density will be belower the failing and an analysis and an and the density will be belower the failing and the second of the density will be belower the failing and the second of the density will be belower to be failed and an and the second by will be belower to be failing and the second of the density will be belower to be failed and an and the second by will be belower to be belower to be below and be belower to be the density will be belower to be be belower to be below and the second of the density will be belower to be below and be below and be below and be been the second by will be below and the below and be belower to be been and by the below and the below and be below and be below and be be been and by the below and the below and be be below and be below and be be below and be below and be be below and be be below and be below and be be below and be be below and be be below and below a

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backing, and hence should not contribute proton groups in the bombardment of the platinum-backed targets. Groups from the platinum itself, if present, should be very broad, because of the thickness of the backing.

Formwar targets coated with cobalt were then bombarded with 5.0 Mey deuterons and the resultant proton groups were plotted. At each current setting of the spectrograph, the target was exposed to from 150 to 400 microcoulombs of deuterons, requiring from one to four hours per plate. The spectrograph field was changed in steps so as to cover an appreciable range of momentum, with the steps so arranged that the graphs from adjacent plates overlapped. With each set of plates at least one elastic was taken to calibrate the input energy. The ground and netastable states and some excited states were evident, but the yield was so low (a maximum of 36 counts per 1/2 mm for the ground state, for example,) that the statistics were poor, and weak peaks were entirely obscured. This was repeated for a portion of the spectrum with a bomberding energy of 5.8 Nev, but the results were no better.

Next the platinum-backed targets were bombarded at energies of 5.0 and 5.8 Hev. The input energy for each set of plates was again determined with at least one elastic group from a Formwar target and each exposure was of 600 seading and have deals are carfed one probe probe grant in the balancedat of the platformeranical biggets. Grants from the platform Statisfy IF provide should be any leasts bacause of the thickness of the leading.

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microcoulombs duration. Because of the intense deuteron background from single and multiple scattering from the platinum backing, it was necessary to cover the plates with aluminum foil of sufficient thickness to stop the deuterons. The result of the plot of protons versus BR, covering the ground and first excited states, is shown in Figure 5. A typical plate at higher excitation showing the increase in density of levels, is shown in Figure 6. Figure 7 is a plot of the proton groups from the ground state to an excitation of h.8 New with E<sub>in</sub>, the deuteron bombarding energy, equal to 5.0 New.

In computing the momentum of a group of particles, the peak is replotted with abscissa expanded by a factor of 20.

A sample calculation, taken from plate 2IV follows:

Abscissa of index		11.040	cm
länus abscissa of 1/3 height of peak		9.537	
	۵	1.503	cm
Measured beam to index distance		71.757	CR
	۵	1.503	
Diameter of proton trajectory		70.254	cm
Radius of proton trajectory = 70.254 =	35.12	7 cm.	

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Figure 6





Figure 7



Frequency of spectrographic magnet fluxmeter = 21.300 mc.

BR = 12.873 x 35.127 = 452.197 kilogauss-cm.

From BR tables

e = 9.73470	(BR = 1.52 kilogauss-cm)
81,5	(interpolation)
9.74315	llev

$$E_{in} = 5.824$$

$$Q = \frac{(M_{\rm T} - M_{\rm O})}{M_{\rm T}} E_{\rm O} - \frac{(M_{\rm T} - M_{\rm I})}{M_{\rm T}} E_{\rm I} =$$

1.10168 x 9.7432 - 0.96640 x 5.8240 = 4.2785 Mev

where 
$$M_{T} = Co^{60} = 59.936h amu$$
  
 $M_{0} = p = 1.00759 amu$   
 $M_{1} = d = 2.01h19 amu.$ 

Relativistic correction = +1.1 kev. This relativistic correction came about by virtue of the fact that the Qequation was derived for the nonrelativistic case.

The equation is

$$dQ = E_{in}^{2} \frac{W_{r}^{2} - W_{i}^{2}}{1842 M_{r}^{3}} + E_{o}^{2} \frac{M_{r}^{2} - M_{o}^{2}}{1842 M_{r}^{3}} - E_{in}^{2} E_{o} \frac{M_{1}^{2} M_{o}}{931 M_{r}^{3}}$$

$$Q + dQ = 4.2796$$
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(mentioned)) (27.1 or att)	17)E7+7 = 0 <sup>3</sup>		
( ) at Lorental (	2.55		
1011	0.11.315		

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1.10168 x 9.71 P ~ 0.9600 x 9.1807 = 1.978 mm

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Finally, runs were ande at 3.0 New to attempt to uncover the region obscured at 5.0 New by the intense carbon and oxy on peaks, and to repeat the measurement of the ground state Q-value. This was accompliahed by holding the generator at 6 New and deflecting singly charged deuterium molecules. In a nuclear reaction the chemical binding energy of the molecule is negligible, each nucleus taking half the energy. The coulomb barrier, which is 6.6 New for compound nucleus formation, must have effectively reduced the (d,p) reaction probability at the energy, however, as only a negligible yield resulted.

In analyzing the results there are three ways to identify the residual nucleus of a reaction group. The first is to vary the composition of the target and note the corresponding variations in peak intensities. This was not intentionally done. The second is to match peaks with previously determined Q-value of known contaminants, and the third is by means of an energy shift. It is seen from the formula for  $E_0$ ,

 $E_0 = \frac{M_T - M_1}{M_T + M_0} E_1 + \frac{M_T}{M_T + M_0} C, \text{ where } M_T \text{ is the mass of}$ the residual nucleus, that the energy (and hence momentum) of a peak is a function of  $M_T$ . The output energy of a group

Therein, is only a new order of 3.0 ker to along the arsource the region around at 5.0 ker to be the himse more and appear robe, but to regark the measurement of the grand while therein. Note the regark the measurement of the grand entries at 4 ker and the measurement of the himse many of the antiker reactive the therein the inter the access. The reacted between which we had no inter the access. The reacted herein a standard the inter the access. The reacted herein a standard which the observe is a standard herein a standard the accessed the (4.0) reacted berefore, which is here all the accessed the (4.0) reacted a probability of the antig the reacted the (4.0) reacted a standard to the antig the reacted the (4.0) reacted a standard to the antig the accessed the (4.0) reacted a reacted reacted a

The evaluation of the constitute there are three water to them the row to be prediced to the second of the second area there is no very the evaluation of the second true the corresponding verifications to peak to bound the . This was not to be the the time the vector of the second to the second of the proposition of second to be the second with proposition to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the second of the second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the the three to be second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the the three to be the second to be the second of the to be the second to be the second to be the second of the second to be the second to be the second to be the second of the second to be the second to be the second to be the second of the second to be the second to be the second to be the second of the second to be the second to be the second to be the second of the second to be the second to be the second to be the second to be the second of the second to be the second t

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from Ca<sup>hl</sup>, for example, will shift 18 kev less per .8 Nev shift in input energy than that of a group from Co<sup>60</sup>. Similarly a group from Br<sup>80</sup> will shift 10 kev more per .8 Nev shift in E<sub>in</sub>.

The known groups from carbon and oxygen were identified. A small peak between groups 10 and 11 at 5.0 Mev bombarding energy which was not reproduced at 5.8 Mev matches a known  $Mg^{24}(d,p)$  group to within experimental error. Other known magnesium groups can be fitted, but not uniquely. The first excited level of Ni<sup>59</sup>, seen in Kinsey's  $(n, \gamma)$  work, should lie just above the ground state of Co<sup>60</sup> at a bombarding energy of 5.0 Mev, but was not seen. A structure on the low energy side of group 6 might be attributed to another group in Ni. All other groups of at least 50 counts per 1/2 mm of diameter yielded Q-values agreeing at the two input energies to within 12 key when assigned to Co<sup>60</sup>.

Above an excitation of 5 Nev, the proton background became large and widely variant between plates. This was thought to be due to a background of deuterons penetrating the foil by virtue of being deflected toward the normal to the foil. But it was shown that their range in the emulsion, even after passing through the foil at right angles,

inna (a<sup>12</sup>, for annulz, will nicht if her beer yns af her aldit in bord enner then that of a group inna (a<sup>12</sup>). Anthrit i a erne frem in<sup>10</sup> will sabib 10 her men en al

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Aborto An excitoring of 5 terr, the method background because large out othely markars become planma. Shin and shoutes to be to a background of technologies producting the Soft to window of balances (Allaces restars on example to the following the markars there the back on the same to containing syme after searcing thereards to this of a same to was vanishingly small, and increasing the thickness of the feil only blocked out all protons. These plate wer further confused by the appertude of proton tracks of all lengths up to the aximum expected. The reason for this high back round may be closely-spaced, overlapping levels in  $Co^{60}$ , or it may be from the platinum backing. Lack of time prevented a controlled run on a bare platinum tract. In the course of the experiment about 64 plates wer exposed.
#### IV. . EULT AND CO. CLUTIO.S

A. PROPAL TRAR.

An estimate of the probable error in Q-values is otten by examining the system of measurements and assigning robable systematic and random errors.

The random errors considered are:

- (1) the spread in 5? resultin from finite lit widths,
- (2) the spread in energy of energing particles due to the variable thickness of cobalt the incident and reaction particles must penetrate,
- (3) the finite width of the bean,
- (4) the aberration of the 180° focusing magnet,
- (5) the finite "reaction" angle subtanded by the photographic plate, and
- (6) small adjustments of the magnet currents necessary to keep the flux meter signal at the belanced position.

If one assumes an entrance slit width to the deflecting magnet of 1 mm, an exit slit width of 1 mm, and collimation of the entering and exit particles, one can make an order of magnitude estimate of the spread in ER of the analyzed particles

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  - (2) the spread in courts of energial periods an der to the services in bidding at ones to be function and reservices predicted and basic basic basic basics.
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    - (A) has sherrender of the Lee" formation adjust,
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26 and any any set of the state of the line of the factorized opor the provided and the set period state of a set of the set of th as dR/R = .5/600 = .008. The energy loss in a thin, Formwarbacked target is estimated as 10 kev, yielding a fractional spread in TR of .0005. The width of the line on the target was measured as 0.7 mm, or  $dR/R = .7/2 \ge 350 = .001$ . The focusing action of the  $180^{\circ}$  magnet gives a fractional second order spread of the order of  $2(1 - \cos \theta) = 2 \frac{\theta^2}{2}$ .  $\theta$  is estimated as  $(2.5/2)/(35 \frac{\pi}{2})$ , and dR/R = .0005. It has been estimated that<sup>11</sup> the plate subtends an angle of  $90^{\circ} \pm 1/3^{\circ}$ from the beam line on the target.

$$dE = 2/(M_1M_0E_1E_0) d \sin \theta/(M_0 + M_p)$$
, and

$$dE/E = 2 \times 2 (\frac{1}{3} \times 180)/18 = .0013$$

for deuterons scattered from oxygen. This corresponds to dR/R = .0006. The two frequency settings each contribute errors of about 1:15,000, or dR/R = .00007. If we now take the square root of the sum of the squares of these estimated deviations and call this a gross approximation to  $\sigma$ , the standard deviation, we get  $\sigma (BR)/BR = 1.6 \times 10^{-3}$  as shown in Table I.

If the deuteron elastic of plate 22Y is fitted to a normal distribution,  $\sigma$  (BR)/SR = .065/70 = .9 x 10<sup>-3</sup>. This agreement is as good as could be expected, considering the approximations made. A similar value for  $\sigma$  (BR) is measured on well-developed cobalt (d,p) peaks.

dom involvence market read iron scopers. This hardware who to de/i = .00001. Dom the frequency whither have sended actions at about 1:15,000, so de/a + .00070. If we send both the equival most of the sen of the sequence of these antituded devictions. and coul take a series approximation the r, the standard tentender, we get r(co)/a = 1.6 = 30°° as were in the standard tent-

27 When develops attaction of plates 200 %s Financials a magnetic distinction data (20)/20 \* .010//20 \* .0 % 20%. This approximate is an good as world be approximit, southing the sportunitions while. I stuffing raise for 10 (11) in manyout or mitoelenstower exhects (4, 2) mains.

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# RANDOM ERECHS

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mergy loss in cobelt	.0005
Width of line on turget	.001
Aberration is 180° focusin, magnet	.0005
Angle of observation	.0006
Deviations of B field	.0007

TABLE I

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We do not actually have a Gaussian distribution, and it is the leading edge, not the mean, in which we are interested. If, nevertheless, we estimate the probable error as .67  $\sigma/\sqrt{n}$ , where  $n \approx 250$  counts/peak, we get a random error of .67 x .9 x  $10^{-3}/16 = 1.25,000$ . This is about the precision to which the position of the leading edge is recorded.

The systematic errors are more important and harder to estimate. These include:

- (1) the calibration error of the polonium alpha groups,
- (2) the departure of the average scattering angle from 90°,
- (3) surface films on the platinum- and Formwar-backed targets,
- (4) the uncertainty in the momentum of the polonium alphas,
- (5) the error in recording index to emulsion track distance in a given microscope, due to a cant of the plate in the microscope,
- (6) errors in the masses of the nuclei involved, and
- (7) errors in the fundamental constants, e and c.

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  - (6) errors in the seaso of the errors in the rest of the
    - as less a patentiative fintermeters and al transmit [77]

The beam to index distance, as det mined from the positions of polonium alpha groups, is deduced from the average of several groups, each group having been averaged in several microscopes. Two such measur monts were taken during the course of this experiment and the reproducibility, 1:27,000, may be taken as a measure of the error.

The departure of the scattering angle from  $90^{\circ}$  can, in principle, be measured by noting the energy of the elastics from two nuclides with a common bombarding energy, but surface films confuse the results unless widely different nuclides, such as gold and lithium, are used. A recent calibration of this type has not been made, but the general consistency of results in the laboratory leads to the belief that this angle is not greater than 20 minutes, which, as has been seen, leads to an error of about 6.5 kev in the calibration of 5 Nev deuterons from oxygen. In computing the Q of the ground state of  $Co^{60}$  this is balanced by a term

$$\frac{2}{60}$$
 (5,000 x 10,000 x 12)<sup>1/2</sup> sin  $\theta = 2$  kev

so that the probable error, taken as half the "limit of error", is 2 kev.

The surface film, which was due primarily to an accumulation of carbon on the face of the target, has been estimated in other experiments to be from 5 to 20 kev thick. This would presumably affect the long-bombarded platinum-backed targets

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to define an interest, taken as and the "interest of error".

The vertice file, such ma im events's to At extense batters of cartae in the inter of the terms, the back estimated the atlace econstitution to in Steps 5 to 53 her ballsto. This would presentify alloci the long-body and plating ended to provide

more than the short elastics from the crowar tar is. But in this case a positive correction would be a lind to the Lo of the ground state  $Co^{59}(d,p)$  reaction, increasing the measured 4, whereas our 4-value is already 20 kev greater than that of Bartholomew and Kinsey. A probable error of 5 kev is arbitrarily adopted.

The uncertainty in momentum of the polonium alphas is 1:5,000, or 1:2,500 in energy. Experience indicates that the probable error in reading a plate once on a microscope is .15 mm/700 mm = 1:5,000 in ER, or 1:2,500 in energy. Errors in nuclear masses and fundamental constants are negligible as compared with the above.

The total probable error in the determination of the ground state 4-value from one oxygen elastic and one (d,p) reaction is, then, the combination of the randomicity of the two measurements, the counting error of the two measurements, the surface film error, the polonium calibration error, the polonium momentum error, and reaction angle error. A tabulation of these errors is shown in Table II. The most important errors are those of film thickness and counting uncertainty.

were then the electric tiltedian from to firmtan they are inthe bills where a constitute to even which the the second state  $O^{(2)}(A, p)$  worklose, increasing the restricted of thirthe are to even in the three by 60 has presing the tilter that at indicators and to strength for the presing the tilter that at indicators and the strength of the presing of the two strengths and prove that the strength of the strength the tilter that at indicators and the strength of the strength the two strengths and provides the strength of

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# TABULATIC, C. DRAEL. REALS IN DITITAL, IN

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Source	Lagnitude, dz (kev)
Random;	
Cxygen Elestic	± .04
Proton Group	± .16
Systematic:	
Counting error in elestic	± 2.0
Counting error in proton group	± 40
Surface film error	± 5.0
Polonium calibration error	± -38
Folonium alpha momentum error	± 2
Reaction angle error	± 2
	$\sqrt{\sum (dE)^2} = = 7.4 \text{ km}$

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	or sums to bridge at
$\left  \left\langle v \in \mathcal{L} \right\rangle \right  \leq  v ^{2}$	-2-10-57 <b>`</b>
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For less well-developed peaks the probable error is increased. The excitation energy errors for groups which are seen on the same plate as the ground state, or on an adjacent, overlapping plate, is much less than the Q-value error, approaching 1 kev at low excitation.

#### B. RESULTS

Three long exposures were made to investigate the vicinity of the ground state of Co<sup>60</sup>: one with a deuteron bombarding energy of 5.0 Nev against a Formvar-backed target, one with a bombarding energy of 5.0 Nev against a platinum-backed target, and the third with a bombarding energy of 5.8 Hev against the same solid-backed target. These three exposures resulted in Q-values for the ground state which were within eleven key of agreement. The ground state Q-value determined in this work ( $Q_0 = 5.280$ + 0.008 Nev) corresponds to the arithmetic mean of the two extreme values, and the spread corresponds to a laboratory nonreproducibility of about + 6 kev. The third value resulted from bombardment of the thinly coated Formvar target and was of lower yield and poorer definition than the two others. All three exposures, however, clearly showed the separation of the 60 kev metastable state; and the computed excitations of this level, as well as the other listed levels, were unmistakably reproduced on both major series of bombardments (those against the platinum-backed targets).

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In each of the two major series of investigations (at Ein = 5.0 Nev and at Ein = 5.8 Nev), good agreement resulted for the relative positions of the lower states in comparison with the respective ground states. The first eleven states in each of the series agreed to within five key of each other. These lower states were seen under conditions which remained unchanged within each series, but which were different for each of the two series. The exceptionally good agreement in excited states which resulted led to the use of the average of each of these excited states in determining the Q-values of these levels. These Q-values. then, are the difference of the average ground state Q-value, which was determined less accurately, and the precise excitation energies. For the higher excited states, there being no simple correspondence in excitation energies, the Q-values of each level were determined by averaging the Q-values determined at each bombarding energy. Also, at these higher excitations, the increased number of weak levels arising from both contaminants and Co<sup>60</sup> itself made resolution of the major peaks difficult. All levels attributed to Co<sup>60</sup>, however, were in agreement to within 12 kev. In some instances it was possible to resolve a complex peak such that, by subtracting a minor peak, agreement was attained with the corresponding peak as determined at a different bombarding energy. This

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technique was used only when it seemed justified by an obviously smaller structure indicated on a major peak.

Table III is a summary of the Q-values, excitation energies, appropriate probable errors, and approximate relative yields of those attributed to energy levels in Co<sup>60</sup>.

## C. COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS RESULTS

The ground-state Q-value determined here,  $Q_0 = 5.280$   $\pm 0.008$  MeV, is in fair agreement with the values 5.20 determined by Bateson and Pollard<sup>6</sup>, 5.44  $\pm$  .2 determined by Harvey<sup>1</sup>, and 5.31 determined by Hoesterey<sup>7</sup>. The more precise work of Bartholomew and Kinsey<sup>3</sup>, when the binding energy of the deuteron (2.226 MeV) is subtracted from their highest energy gamma-ray, results in a Q of 5.260  $\pm$  0.006, a difference of 20 keV.

Table IV compares the excitation energies from this work with those found by Bartholomew and Kinsey and by Bateson and Pollard. It is seen that the excitation energies, particularly of the lower states are in excellent agreement. It is also of note that those low lying states of Bartholomew and Kinsey which stem from transitions indicated by strong homogeneous gamma-rays agree exceptionally well.

#### D. CONCLUSIONS

The metastable state in Co<sup>60</sup> 59 kev above the ground state is nicely brought out by the present work, and it is

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Peak	Q (Mev)	E (Nev)	Relative Intensity
0	5.260 ± .008		1.0
1	5.220 ±8	. Col ± . Co.3	.6
2	i ± .CC.	.26 ± .003	• 5
3	1. 35 ± ./08	• 445 ± • 003	e le
4	4.767 ± .00%	.513 ± .003	.5
5	4.723 ± .009	.517 ± .005	•5
6	4.659 ± .009	.621 ± .004	.9
7	4.488 ± .008	.792 ± .003	.7
8	4.268 ± .003	1.012 ± .003	1.0
9	4.043 ± .009	1.237 ± .005	.6
10	3.886 ± .009	1.394 ± .004	.8
11	3.747 ± .010	1.533 ± .006	.3
12	3.617 ± .010	1.663	.3
13	3.455 ± .010	1.825	1.5
14	3.278 ± .010	2,002	.5
15	3.219 ± .010	2.061	.7

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TABLE III

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Feak	Q (Mev)	🧉 (N.ev)	Tolstive Intersity
16	3.126 ± .010	2.154	.5
17	2.932 ± .010	2.799	.2
13	2.910 ± .015	2.370	.5
19	2.665 ± .010	2.615	.1
20	2.650 ± .010	2.630	.2
21	2.489 ± .012	2.791	• 3
22	2.409 ± .015	2.871	.6
23	2.356 ± .012	2.924	• 4
24	2.242 ± .012	3.038	• 4
25	2.069 ± .012	3.211	.7
26	1.971 ± .012	3.309	.4
27	1.054 ± .012	4.226	• 4
28	.974 ± .013	4.306	.6
29	.855 ± .012	4.0 425	•7
30	.709 ± .015	4. 571	.5

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TABLE III (Continued)

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4.	275.44	K25. ± 084.	195
г.	1798-4	15% ± 10%	

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# COMPARISON OF EXCITED STATES OF Co<sup>60</sup> (Kev)

Peak	Present Work	Bartholomew and Kinsey	Bateson and Pollard
l	60 ± 3		
2	286 + 3	285*	390
3	445 ± 3	44.5*	
L.	513 ± 3	512*	
5	557 ± 5		
6	621 + 4	619*	
7	792 ± 3	796*	810
8	1012 ± 3	1012**	
9	1237 ± 5	1236	1280
10	1394 + 4	1376	
11	1533 <u>+</u> 6	1520	
12	1663		
		1760	1730
13	1825	1840	
14	2002		
15	2061		
16	2154	2135	2170
17	2292	2307	
18	2370		
19	2615	2583	
20	2630		

TABLE IV

# Courty Plan The DOLARD ADDRESS TO MICHAELED.

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Peak	Present Work	Bartholomew and Kinsev	Bateson and Pollard
21	2791		
22	2871		
23	2924	2900	
24	3038		
		3120	
25	3211		
26	3309	3300	
		3460	
		3800	
		4130	
27	4226		
28	1306		
29	4425		
30	4571		

\*Levels whose existence is inferred from strong homogeneous gamma rays.

> TABLE IV (Continued)

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clear that Bartholomew and Kinsey were measuring gamma-rays to the ground state of  $Co^{60}$ , not to the metastable state. They state<sup>3</sup> that, should this be the case, the intensity of gamma-rays to the metastable state is less than 10 percent of those to the ground state.

As an explanation for this, it is noted that there is a resonance in the  $Co^{59}$  neutron capture cross section at 123 ev, which state presumably influences the capture of thermal neutrons if we make the reasonable assumption<sup>15</sup> that the energy level spacing here is of the order of tens of kilovolts. It is reasonable further to assume, then, that s-wave neutrons are captured into the (f) 7/2 ground state of  $Co^{59}$  to form a 1- state, and that electric dipole radiation to the 5+ ground state of  $Co^{60}$  enceeds the magnetic Quadrupole radiation to the 2+ metastable state by a factor greater than 10.

The level density as presented in Figure 8 is, unfortunately, not conclusive, as it is felt that in the region of excitation above 1 New there are some  $Co^{60}$  levels whose intensities are not sufficiently high uniquely to identify them as such. Above an excitation of 4.8 Nev, no useful information was obtained on level densities. A lower limit on level densities below this figure is set, however, and it is easily seen by comparison with Bartholomew and Kinsey's gamma spectra of iron and nickel that this odd-odd nucleus has a more complex spectrum than that of its even-odd neighbors.

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In order to the the resolve this units it is proposed that the new space of the transmission of the 120° of roton for the  $Co^{59}(a_{s}) = C^{60}(...5)$  relation, utilizing below's<sup>3</sup> theory of new r is tilution as involution of the new r

The shel onel and Schift eigr concur in igning odd rity to the ground at to of  $60^{57}$  (I = 7/2), so one

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would expect the orbital an ular semantum of the a stron,  $l_n$ , ca tured in going to the first would at the of  $a^{60}$  to be 1 or 3. If  $l_n$  were found to be 1 it would rule out the essignment of 1- to the first excited tate of  $a^{60}$ , whereas if  $l_n = 3$ , both 1- and 2- are allowed state of this level.

Usin deut rows of 6.4 % v energy in c.m.s.  $(6.4 \times 61/59 = 6.6$  her in laboratory system) and an outgoin c.m.s. mergy of  $6.4 - 5.23 \pm 11.63$  her, it is clear from the figures in Butler's article that the differential cross-section for the reaction sould peak t about  $22^{\circ}$  for  $1_{\rm H} = 1$ ,  $\%^{\circ}$  for  $1_{\rm H} = 2$ , and  $51^{\circ}$  for  $1_{\rm H} = 3$ , all angles in c.m.s.

In order to convert laboratory system angles to c.m.s. one must add to the measured angles,  $\Theta$ , the quantity ( $\Theta - \Theta$ ), where

$$n (\Theta - \vartheta) = \frac{\sin \Theta \times \text{vel of } c. \text{ cf } \mathbb{R}.}{\text{vel of proton in } c. \text{ of } \mathbb{R}.}$$

$$= \frac{\sin \Theta \sqrt{\frac{2}{24}}}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{24}}} \frac{2/61}{(11.63 \text{ Nev}) 60/61}$$

$$= \sin \vartheta \sqrt{\frac{6.6}{2 \times 11.63}} \frac{61}{60} \frac{2}{61}$$

$$= .0176 \sin \vartheta [(\Theta - \Theta) = 1.0^{\circ} \text{ at } \Theta = 90^{\circ}]$$

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