X Rays from μ , π , κ , and Σ^- Capture in the Light Elements*

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A search for x rays from the capture of kaons in helium has disclosed neither K- nor Lseries radiation; the upper limit of the x-ray yield is in the range 7-10%. This contradicts results of an earlier measurement, but is in better agreement with related data on kaon-helium scattering. In the same experimental arrangement, the yields of pionic and muonic x rays in helium were also measured. We find anomalously low yields, accompanied by intensity distributions of the K-series members in disagreement with the conventional cascade picture of a predominantly circular set of orbits. Monte Carlo cascade calculations could not duplicate the observed results unless weak Stark mixing, in the form of "sliding transitions" $(n, l \rightarrow n, l \pm 1)$, was added. Agreement with observation was achieved in muonic, pionic, and kaonic atoms with a single value for the parameter describing the strength of the Stark mixing. Yields and energies of kaonic x rays in other light elements, Li, Be, and C, were also measured. Yields of x rays from muonic and pionic capture in these elements were remeasured also, and cascade calculations like those for helium repeated. In these elements the addition of Stark mixing is not needed to achieve agreement with experiment. In the pionic atoms 2p-state absorption rates, and in kaonic atoms 3d-state absorption rates for He, Li, Be, and C can be derived from the experimental data and compared with theoretical values, with good agreement. In addition to the identifiable kaonic transition lines also observed by Wiegand and Mack, additional lines not ascribable to kaonic atoms were found in all three elements. After careful consideration of possible origins of these lines, we ascribe the two lithium lines to $M\alpha$ and $M\beta$, and the Be line to $M\alpha$ transitions in Σ -hyperonic atoms. Such atoms are formed if Σ^- hyperons from kaon capture (whose abundance is about 15%) are slowed down and stopped in the target. The observed yields and energies are consistent with this interpretation, and with no other we have been able to invent. A line in C, however, cannot be ascribed either to kaonic or Σ atoms, and appears to be a pionic $L\alpha$. Why such a line appears only in C is not understood.

I. INTRODUCTION

The observed yield of mesonic x rays, and the energy-level population calculated by Monte Carlo methods, together with the known radiation widths of x-ray levels, allow computation of the nuclear absorption rates from various atomic states, since nuclear absorption depletes the x-ray yields that would otherwise be observed. The resulting nuclear-absorption rates can be checked against the corresponding phase shifts obtained from low-energy kaon-helium scattering data. The scattering also gives rise to energy-level displacements that can be checked with observed x-ray energies.

The primary motivation of the work to be described here was the discrepancy between two sets of experiments on the interaction of slow kaons in helium. The experiment of Burleson $et al.^1$ on the yield and energies of the $K\alpha x$ rays from the kaonic-helium atom indicated an interaction between the kaon and the α particle which was not only too weak to accord with current concepts of the kaon-nucleon interaction, but actually was in contradiction with experimental data on kaon-helium scattering.² As we will see later, their observed yield of the $L\alpha$ line (85%) is in conflict with inferences concerning the maximum possible population of the 3d state, which may be drawn from experiments on the inten-

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sity ratios of *K*-series muonic and pionic x rays in helium.

Our repetition of the kaonic-helium x-ray measurements has led to results³ at variance with the earlier ones, but in agreement with expectations from kaon-helium scattering and with theoretical models. We found no appreciable K- or L-series x-ray yield, rather than the large yield values reported before. In order to verify these null results, we were led to examine the x-ray yield from muon and pion capture in helium and the x rays emitted after muon, pion, and kaon capture in other light nuclei. These have resulted in interesting new physics. The absolute yields of muonic and pionic x rays in helium has not been previously measured. and were unexpectedly low. To understand this, we carried out Monte Carlo calculations on the cascade process in the $(He-M)^+$ mesonic ion, a hydrogenlike structure. We found that the results could not be explained without introducing transitions due to collisions. Collisions produce mixing of angular momentum states in a hydrogenlike atom, by introducing a noncentral field, first described as molecular binding by Roberts⁴ and later as Stark transitions by Day, Sucher, and Snow,⁵ who also made quantitative calculations.

The capture of pions and muons in Li, Be, and C allowed remeasurement of the yields and intensity distributions of the K- and L- series x rays in these elements. The anomalies found in helium were absent, and the cascade is explicable without the introduction of Stark mixing. Rates in pionic atoms have been inferred from the cascade calculations. Results of kaonic capture in Li, Be, and C are presented. The lines previously observed by Wiegand and Mack⁶ were confirmed, and several new ones seen.

From these observations we have calculated values (sometimes upper limits) for nuclear absorption rates in the 2p, 3d, or 4f states of various mesonic atoms in the light elements. Where previous data exist, our values are in good agreement (with the exception, of course, of helium).

Additional unexpected x-ray lines following kaon capture in Li and Be have been interpreted as due to Σ -hyperonic atomic transitions; no other explanation we have been able to imagine seems adequate. The observed energies, intensities, and level shifts are plausible.

II. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

The experiments were carried out with a proportional counter spectrometer at the zero gradient synchrotron (ZGS) at the Argonne National Laboratory.

A. Beam Design

We used a 16-m-long unseparated two-stage low-

momentum beam with large phase-space acceptance, produced at 0° from a target at the second focus F_2 of the external proton beam (EPB-1) from the Argonne ZGS. A study of K^- stopping efficiency, taking into account production cross sections, decay in flight, and interactions and scattering losses in the moderator, established a broad optimum in the number of stopping kaons at a beam momentum of 800-900 MeV/c.

The calculated optimum for stopping pions and muons was about 300 MeV/c. However, excessive electron contamination and other technical problems (inability to obtain stable beam magnet operation) led to the choice of 500 MeV/c as the beam momentum to be used.

Figure 1(a) shows a simplified layout of the beam, including the counters, moderator, target, and shielding.

B. Particle Selection and Detection

Kaon Selection

The selection of a practically pure (>99.5%) signal was achieved with a time-of-flight telescope $C_1 \cdot C_2$ of two liquid Fitch-type inverse threshold Čerenkov counters located at the first and second foci of the beam. A complete description of the counters and their performance has been published.⁷

Pion, Muon Selection

To select the pions or muons in the 500-MeV/cbeam, a high-pressure gas-filled (Freon 13) threshold Čerenkov counter C_G replaced C_2 , as in Fig. 1(b). It was used in coincidence for muons and in anticoincidence for pions, with a scintillation counter telescope $S_1 \cdot S_2$. The gas counter detected only the muons.

dE/dx Counter

An additional 8.9-cm-diam 0.63-cm-thick dE/dx scintillator S_3 identified slow particles coming out of the moderator. For kaons, a single-channel analyzer on the pulse output was set to detect $4 \times$ minimum-ionizing particles, corresponding to the average pulse height of kaons stopping in the target. In the K^- beam, pions coming out of the moderator at $\simeq 560 \text{ MeV}/c$ were minimum ionizing and thus rejected. The dE/dx criterion provided an additional stopping K/π selection factor greater than 5.

For stopping pions and muons, the dE/dx threshold was reduced to $2 \times \text{minimum ionizing}$. The counter was calibrated with protons in a positive beam.

Proportional Counters

The hodoscope used for x-ray detection consisted of four pairs of 0.010-in. Be-window proportional counters.⁸ Each counter was $5 \times 5 \times 51$ cm, and was

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FIG. 1. (a) Counter arrangement for stopping kaons (not to scale). C_1 (coincident photomultipliers A_1 , A_2) and C_2 (coincident photomultipliers B_1 , B_2) are Čerenkov counters in a time-of-flight circuit to select kaons; S_1 and S_2 are scintillation counters, S_3 is a pulse-height discriminating scintillator, to emphasize slow kaons emerging from the moderator, and ACDS is a downstream anticoincidence counter following the tartet T. The eight proportional counters PC_i detect x rays; they are protected from charged fragments by the anticoincidence counters AC_i . (b) Arrangement for stopping muons and pions: the time-of-flight Cerenkov counters are replaced by the gas threshold Cerenkov counter C_G , which discriminates between muons and pions.

filled with xenon at 2-atom absolute pressure.

To stop an appreciable fraction of the K^- beam in helium, a 30.5-cm-long liquid-helium target was used. This target length in turn dictated the use of large area detectors to achieve a reasonable solid angle, thus excluding the use of solid-state detectors. The proportional-counter hodoscope subtended 0.4 sr at the target, was outside the beam, and had a high detection efficiency for 5-50keV x rays.

Behind each pair of counters (IJ) an overlapping anticoincidence scintillation counter AC_{IJ} was used to prevent the analysis of pulses resulting from intime charged particles traversing the proportional counters, as described below.

C. Triggering Logic

The stopping K^- trigger ($\equiv K_{stop}$) consisted of a C_1 , C_2 Cerenkov telescope coincidence with the proper K^- time-of-flight delay (\equiv tof), in coincidence with the dE/dx counter after the moderator, and in anticoincidence with a downstream scintillator *ACDS* behind the targets [Fig. 1(a)]; i.e., $K_{stop} \times tof \times dE/dx \times \overline{ACDS}$. For muons and pions the tof telescope was replaced by the scintillationcounter telescope $S_1 \cdot S_2$, in coincidence with the threshold gas Čerenkov counter C_G for muons (tof $= S_1 \cdot S_2 \cdot C_G$) and in anticoincidence (TOF = $S_1 \cdot S_2$ $\cdot \overline{C}_G$) for pions [Fig. 1(b)].

After forming the K_{stop} trigger, the logic generated slow gates from $K_{\text{stop}} \overline{A} \overline{C}_{IJ}$ for each proportional-counter bank.

The data were accumulated in two TMC 1024channel analyzers, one for data and the other for out-of-time background. The analyzers were divided into four 256-channel quadrants, and the data from each of the four pairs of proportional counters were routed to the appropriate quadrant by tagging signals. Final summing of the data was accomplished by a supplementary computer program. The gains of the two counters of each pair were matched by adjusting the high voltage

Signal Processing

Each of the four channels of the pulse spectrometer contained a low-noise preamplifier⁹ fed to a direct-coupled low-noise linear pulse amplifier¹⁰ with fixed unipolar (negative) *RC* integrating and differentiating time constants. The amplifier contained a pole-zero (damping) circuit to reduce spectral distortion due to pulse overshoots and a baseline shift with high counting rate. Continuous gain controls allowed a matching of the gains in all four channels. The outputs passed to a delay line in the linear gate and to a linear pulse selector which provided a gating signal (control) to the linear gate. Figure 2 shows the signal-processing system used.

The linear pulse selector¹¹ (LPS) is a single-channel analyzer with an additional baseline discriminator to reduce pulse-tail pileup distortion, by requiring a given input pulse to start within + 75 mV from the baseline (+ 0 mV). It also contains a pulse-shape discriminator circuit which reduces spectral distortion due to leading-edge-pile-up and defective (i. e., oddly shaped) pulses from various background. Selection is made through zero-crossing detection of the differentiated input pulse. An external direct-coupled gate allowed enabling or disabling each channel by external logic (K_{stop} · \overline{AC}_{LI} gates). The LPS also contains a strobed coincidence circuit which was used to generate an out-of-time tag (routing) gate for an input of the delayed $K_{\text{stop}} \cdot \overline{AC}_{\text{IJ}}$ slow gate.

The linear gate¹² established proper pulse shaping and final baseline restoration of the analog pulse for analog-to-digital conversion and storage.

The four channels were finally merged in a linear mixer, in conjunction with an anticoincidence gate which ensured that only one pulse (one channel) entered the mixer, and thus the PHA. By storing the channels independently, the behavior of each channel could be monitored.

D. Targets

The liquid-helium target was specially constructed to transmit low-energy x rays.¹³ It was 15.3 cm diam, 30.5 cm long, with Mylar walls only 0.05 mm thick where the x rays emerged. A beryllium-foil heat shield and aluminized Mylar outer window minimized the x-ray absorption. A thin window at the bottom allowed an external x-ray source to be used to check the target x-ray transmission.

The solid targets were in the form of rectangular blocks suspended at a shallow angle (about 20°) with respect to the incident beam, thus maximizing the stopping power while minimizing absorption of transversely emerging x-rays. Target dimensions were 42. $0 \times 15.5 \times 1.90$ cm (Li); 38. $6 \times 15.3 \times 2.54$ cm (C); 45. $5 \times 15.3 \times 2.54$ cm (Be), with projected (beam direction) thicknesses of 14. 10 gm/cm² (C); 12.82 gm/cm² (Be); 3.39 gm/cm² (Li).

III. TESTING AND CALIBRATION A. Counting Rate Losses

The background in the proportional counters in-

cluded a wide variety of pulse amplitudes, rise and decay times, and shapes. The overshoots caused by the difference pulses, especially those saturating the amplifiers, varied widely. As the pole-zero damping-circuit compensation covered only the normal unsaturated range of pulse heights and shapes, the overshoot could not always be removed. As a consequence, counting losses due to baseline discrimination against pulse-tail (overshoot) pileup occurred. This effect was entirely dominated by large background pulses saturating the amplifier.

To ensure that the counting loss was not sensitive to the spectrum of saturated pulses, rate-loss tests were conducted both in the beam and with an artificial induced γ -ray background. The good agreement of the two results assured this independence.

The counting-rate losses were about 20% at a total singles counting rate per channel (two counters) of 7 kHz. Most of the data were taken at counting rates of 6 kHz or less.

B. Resolving Time of the Proportional Counters

Because of the low electron drift velocity in the outer low-field regions of the xenon proportional counters, a significant time delay of the output pulses occurred for low-energy x rays¹⁴ which are absorbed near the counter window.

To make precise measurements of this delay, γ x-ray delayed-coincidence measurements were made with weak (0. 1- μ C) electron-capture sources Co⁵⁷, Zn⁶⁵, Cd¹⁰⁹. This was done by replacing the K_{stop} signal with the output of a NaI γ -ray detector placed in close proximity to the proportional counters. Measurements were made for different locations on the counters. In addition, tests were made



FIG. 2. Simplified slow electronics for the proportional-counter xray spectrometer. Each of the four channels has its own quadrant of the pulse-height analyzers, and its own pulse-shaping and pulse-rejection system.



FIG. 3. Variation of efficiency of the high-pressure xenon proportional counters as a function of x-ray energy for two different gate lengths. The increased delay at low energies is due to x-ray absorption in the outer lowfield region of the counters, with resulting increased collection time.

with background added. The results indicated that all counters were similar, the delays were uniform over the window area, and the delay was independent of rate. Figure 3 illustrates the variation of efficiency versus energy for a short (2.5 μ sec) and long gate width (4 μ sec).

This property of the counters made it possible to search for low-energy x rays by varying the coincidence gate length, a fact which we utilized in looking for the L series from kaon capture in helium.

C. Linearity and Stability

The pulse spectrometer linearity was established by using an amplitude-stable mercury exponential pulse generator fed into the preamplifiers. The spectrometer was found to be linear within $\pm \frac{1}{2}\%$ in the *ADC* range used to collect data spectra.

The variations of amplifier gain K and spectrometer baseline B_0 with rate were found to be less than $\pm 1\%$ ($\delta K/K$) and \pm channel (δB_0), respectively, for counting rates from 1 to 40 kHz. Both a variable frequency pulse generator and external x-ray sources were used to establish the rate.

Once the spectrometer system had been brought to equilibrium, it maintained excellent long-term stability.

D. Detection Efficiency and Resolution

Counter Efficiencies

The intrinsic efficiency of the proportional counters as a function of energy was established with the use of standard x-ray sources in a known and constant geometry. The resolution as a function of energy was likewise determined using these sources.

Stopping Distribution

Because of the large size of the targets and proportional counters, the net detection efficiency depended on the distribution of stopping particles over the targets. To determine this distribution for the solid targets, a small scintillation counter S_5 was used in coincidence with the particle stop signal $(S_5 \cdot M_{stop})$ to generate a grid measurement of the stopping density $M_{stop}(X)$ over the target face.

With the given target configuration, the muon and pion stopping distributions for the helium target were uniform because of the large divergence (due to scattering) of the stopping beams. For kaons, the stopping beam was more concentrated in a forward cone, but the stopping was again approximately uniform in helium. To establish this, a mock target was made up of incremental absorbers: thin Lucite disks spaced with Styrofoam to give the same mean density as liquid helium. Using a dE/dx scintillator probe with the exact cross section of the target, measurements of the differential absorption along the target were made. These established the uniformity of stopping for kaons.

E. Geometrical Efficiency

For each target the spectrometer detection efficiency $\epsilon_D(E_{\gamma})$ was determined with a Monte Carlo program. In this program the target and spectrometer coordinates were specified and x-ray emission points were generated in the targets according to the appropriate particle stopping distribution. The x rays were emitted isotropically.

If the given x-ray path intersected one of the counters, its path length in the target was found. Then, given a series of energies, corresponding target absorption coefficients, and counter efficiencies, the probability of detection was determined. Thus, the programs yielded detector solid angle and the energy-dependent detection efficiency $\epsilon_D(E_{\gamma})$ averaged over the targets.

F. Yield Determinations: Stopping Measurements

Muons

Recorded data included S_1S_2 [see Fig. 1(b)] giving the total secondary beam flux, $N_{\mu} \equiv S_1S_2 \times C_G \times dE/dx$, the muon flux through the moderator, and $\mu_{stop} = N_{\mu} \times \overline{ACDS}$, the apparent number of muons stopped. The actual number of muons removed by the target was determined from the range curves for N_{μ}/S_1S_2 and μ_{stop}/S_1S_2 versus moderator thickness L_D of copper, for the targets in and out. These range curves indicated, as expected, a large range straggling in the muon stopping in Cu (mean range 250 gm/cm²).

The difference spectrum $(\mu_{\text{stop}}/N_{\mu})(\text{Tgt}) - (\mu_{\text{stop}}/N_{\mu})$ (no Tgt) yields the muon attenuation due to the target, which is due both to stopping and scattering out.

To correct the muon stopping measurements for scattering, two procedures were considered. First, the difference spectrum in the scattering region was linearly extrapolated under the stopping region. As a better estimate of the scattering, the muon no-target range curve was used by normalizing it to the transition region between scattering (degrader length $L_D \ll$ muon range R_{μ}^0) and stopping ($L_D \approx R_{\mu}^0$). While the scattering correction for the Be target was small (8%), the corrections for the He, Li targets were large (30%), and the uncertainty in this correction constitutes a major part of the final-yield errors.

Pions

For pions $N_{\pi} \equiv S_1 S_2 \times \overline{C}_G \times dE/dx$ gave the pion flux through the moderator: $\pi_{\text{stop}} \equiv N_{\pi} \times \overline{ACDS}$ gave the number of pions apparently stopped.

The pion-integral and differential-range curves indicated a much smaller straggling in the pion stopping range R_{π}^{0} (220 g/cm² of Cu). Again, the difference spectrum $(\pi_{\text{stop}}/N_{\pi})$ (Tgt) $-(\pi_{\text{stop}}/N_{\pi})$ (no Tgt) yielded the pion stopping rate (including scattering).

In the case of pions, which had a better defined range than muons, the scattering corrections were typically only 10%.

Kaons

For kaons, $N_K \equiv K_{tof} \times dE/dx$ gave the kaon flux through the moderator, and $K_{stop} \equiv N_K \times \overline{ACDS}$ gave the number of stopping kaons. Range curves K_{stor}/N_K were taken with the targets in and out. The difference spectrum $(K_{stop}/N_K)(Tgt) - (K_{stop}/N_K)$ (no Tgt) determined the kaon stopping rate. The same procedure for establishing scattering corrections was followed. Because of the well-defined kaon range $R_K^0(217 \text{ g/cm}^2 \text{ Cu})$ and small straggling, these corrections were typically 5% in Be, C and 10% in He, Li.

To check the values of K_{stop}/N_K obtained for the helium target, a scintillator E_{tot} equivalent to the helium target was used to form "KS" = $K_{\text{stop}} \times E_{\text{tot}}$, a kaon-stopping-in-helium signal. With this "KS," a range curve was taken. To extract the stopping, the same procedure used to make scattering and in-flight interaction corrections was followed, with a result in good agreement with that of the earlier procedure.

The yield errors quoted result from adding in quadrature the statistical error in difference spectrum count, zero error and errors in stopping detection efficiency, counting loss and gate width corrections. The dominant errors were the stopping fraction and statistical errors.

G. Escape-Peak Measurements

For x-ray energies above the xenon K-absorption edge (at 34.6 keV), escape-peak efficiencies had to be determined in order to establish the correct detection efficiency in the total absorption x-ray peak. Escape-peak yield measurements were made with standard Gd¹⁵³ (40 keV) and Am²⁴¹ (60 keV) sources. These results were cross checked against escape peaks for the π -Be $K\beta$ and π -Be $K\alpha$ x rays. The agreement indicated that the escape corrections were known to 5–10%.

IV. PROCEDURE AND RESULTS

A. Procedure

Once the conditions for a given data run were established, a calibration run (Fe^{55} and Cd^{109}) in the beam spill was made under running conditions by producing an artificial K_{stop} signal with a beamgated signal generator. The singles counting rates of the proportional counters in all calibration runs were within $\pm 10\%$ of the data-run rates. Thus the calibration spectrum included any gating, beam spill, background, and rate effects. At various times this spectrum was cross checked against those of Co^{57} , Cs^{137} , and Am^{241} so that the over-all linearity of the system under these conditions could be established. Calibration runs were interspersed frequently with data runs. Periodic x-ray transmission tests of the liquid-He target were made using a Fe⁵⁵ source.

Data Reduction

Data stored in the 1024-channel analyzers were read out on punched paper tape, transferred to magnetic tape, and run through two data-reduction and spectrum-fitting computer programs. The first of these, HERMES, combined the data, made plots, located peaks in calibration runs, normalized the calibration and data runs, and produced summary data tapes for use by APOLLO, which found peak centroids, made fits to single or multiple peaks, and determined energies, widths, errors, etc.

B. Results: Helium

Muons

An example of the muon difference spectra (in He) is given in Fig. 4. All the muon results are given in Table I. To account for the line-broadening effect of the $K\beta$ and $K\gamma$ components, the K-series x-ray energies and intensities were determined by computer multiple-Gaussian peak fits. The ratio of $K\alpha$ to the sum of all K-series intensities, $K\alpha/\Sigma K_j$, was corrected for relative detection efficiency of each line. For He, the best fits required a small ($\simeq 5\%$) $K\gamma$ component, and the quoted $K\beta\gamma$ energy includes the $K\gamma$ effects.

Pions

An example of the pion-difference spectrum (in He) is given in Fig. 5. Since the spectrum contains muon contamination, multipeak fitting procedures were used. By including the muon lines in the fits, adequate yield determinations and proper



FIG. 4. Muon spectra in helium. (a) Muon-He capture spectrum minus same data for empty target; (b) muon-He capture spectrum minus random background (out-of-time spectrum).

energy fits were obtained. All the pion results are given in Table II.

Kaons

A major portion of the running time was devoted to the kaon-He study, with a total of 1.25×10^6 kaons stopped in He. Because of the absence of any x 'rays, the study included a variety of running conditions. In-time data and out-of-time (random background) spectra were taken with both a short gate (2.5 μ sec) which excluded most of the $L\alpha$ x rays (6.5 keV), and a long coincidence gate ($\stackrel{>}{\sim}$ 4.0 μ sec) which admitted most of the $L\alpha$ x rays (see Fig. 3). Both data sets would include all the *K*-series x rays. Empty target (both in- and out-of-time) backgrounds were also taken with these two gating conditions. Finally, long-gate runs on a dummy He absorptive target (He replaced by an equivalent mass and average density Styrofoam-Lucite sandwich), which allowed no low-energy x rays to emerge, were taken in order to establish whether the spectrometer had detected low-energy x-ray signals from He.



FIG. 5. Pion-He capture spectrum minus random (out-of-time) background.

Figure 6 illustrates the total data and out-of-time (background) spectra representing 1.25×10^6 kaons stopped in helium. A difference spectrum (target full minus target empty) is shown in Fig. 7. For a 50% K α yield (34.9 keV) there should be 10^4 x rays in the line.

As there is no evidence for the *K*-series lines, upper limits to the yields were established. Table III gives the yield limits on the *K*-series x rays calculated according to a set of varying assumptions. These are, for the $K\alpha$ line, (a) an unshifted line (corresponding to a *K*⁻-He zero scattering length), with instrumental width only; or (b) a shifted line ($\pm 2 \text{ keV}$) with a corresponding 2 - keV broadening. The same conditions exist for $K\beta$.

The kaon-He scattering data of Block *et al.*³ yields an *s*-wave phase shift that predicts a large displacement and broadening of the 1*s* state; from their values the $K\alpha$ line would occur at 41.0 keV, with a width of 6.7 keV. Limits of observation are quoted in Table III for such a line also.

The search for L-series x rays also required a detailed analysis of the x-ray data. For the data consisting of 10 independent spectra, there is a set of consistency relations between all the difference spectra combinations which can be formed, which establishes the various signal components present

Element	Line	Line energy (keV) (observed)	Total series yield (Y_K, Y_L)	Relative Intensity ^a $R\alpha = K\alpha / \sum K_J$
Не	Κα Κβ, γ	8.25 ± 0.15 9.90 ± 0.15^{b}	0.79 ± 0.13	0.58 ± 0.05
Li	Κα Κβ,γ	18.75 ± 0.15 22.20 ± 0.03	0.75 ± 0.15	0.72 ± 0.05
Ве	Κα Κβ	33.25 ± 0.15 39.55 ± 0.15 6.20 ± 0.22	1.09 ± 0.13	0.83 ± 0.07
С	Lα Lβ	14.06 ± 0.32 19.08 ± 0.32	0.50 ± 0.10	0.83 ± 0.07

TABLE I. Muon x-ray yields.

^aCorrected for relative detection efficiency.

^bIndicates a small γ component.

 $^{c}Y_{L\alpha} = 0.33$. Because of the $\mu K\beta$ xenon $K\alpha$ escape peak, $Y_{L\beta}$ cannot be determined, but is assumed to be $0.15Y_{L\alpha}$.

Element	Line	Line energy (keV)	Total series yield $(Y_K Y_L)$	Relative intensity ^a $R\alpha = K\alpha / \sum K_J$	Energy shift ΔE_{1s}	Width of <i>Ka</i> line (keV)	
Не	Κα	10.80 ± 0.15	0.18 ± 0.05	0.40 ± 0.05	• • •		
	Κβ,γ	13.00 ± 0.15^{b}					
	Kβ	12.85 ± 0.15 c					
Li	Kα	24.11 ± 0.22	0.21 ± 0.05	$\texttt{0.70} \pm \texttt{0.06}$	0.52 ± 0.22	$< 0.19^{d}$	
Be	Κα	42.30 ± 0.15	0.21 ± 0.05		1.64 ± 0.15	0.70 ± 0.40^{e}	
	$L \alpha$	8.10 ± 0.15					
	Leta	10.80 ± 0.25	$\textbf{0.35} \pm \textbf{0.07}$	$\textbf{0.90} \pm \textbf{0.06^{e}}$			
С	$L \alpha$	18.40 ± 0.32	$\textbf{0.36} \pm \textbf{0.10}$	0.84 ± 0.07			
		1s-state absorption	2p-state	absorption	Optical m	odel (Ref. 21)	
Element		rate Γ_{is} (sec ⁻¹)	rate r	$_{2p}(sec^{-1})$	rates	$\Gamma_{2p}(\text{sec}^{-1})$	
Не		$(1.9 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{17}$	$(3.0 \pm 2.$	0) $\times 10^{12f}$	1.6	×10 ¹²	
Li		$<2.9 \times 10^{17}$	$(2.5 \pm 1.$	$0) \times 10^{13}$	4.4	$\times 10^{13}$	
Be		$(1.6 \pm 0.58) \times 10^{18}$	$(8.0 \pm 2.$	$0) \times 10^{13}$	1.4	$\times 10^{14}$	
С		• • •	$(1.9\pm0.$	3) $\times 10^{15}$	1.6	$\times 10^{15}$	
			Koch et al	. (Ref. 37)			
Ν		• • •	(3.35±0	$(3.35 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{15}$		3.7×10^{15}	
0			(7.45 ± 1)	. 20) ×10 ¹⁵	9.4	$\times 10^{15}$	

TABLE II. Pion x-ray yields and 1s-, 2p-state absorption rates.

^aCorrected for relative detection efficiencies.

^bIndicates a γ component.

 $^c\textsc{Best-fit}$ energy assuming instrument linewidth and a relative 0.10 γ component.

^dLorentzian linewidth.

^eDetermined from the limit on the $K\beta$ escape peak.

 f Determined from yields and cascade calculations.

in the spectra.

As the complete analysis is complicated, only the essential results will be given. Figure 8 illustrates the difference spectrum of the $4-\mu$ sec He data and $4-\mu$ sec dummy He data, which established the existence of low-energy signals in the data. The difference spectrum of the 4- and 2. $5-\mu$ sec data (the

latter excludes low-energy in-time signals) indicated the presence of in-time He and/or target signals, while the difference spectrum of the 4- μ sec data and empty-target background indicated no evidence of L x rays, i.e., in-time He signal. The difference spectrum of the 4- μ sec empty target (in-time) and the 2.5- μ sec empty target (in-time) indicated there

FABLE III.	Yields of	K-series	x rays	from	kaon	capture	in	helium.
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Klein ene:	n-Gordon rgy (keV)	Yield for unshifted line of instrumental	Yield for shifted line $\Delta E = +2.0 \text{ keV}$ $\Gamma = 2.0 \text{ keV}$	Yield for shifted line $\Delta E = -2.0 \text{ keV}$ $\Gamma = 2.0 \text{ keV}$	Yield for $K\alpha^a$ $\Delta E = +6.0 \text{ keV}$ $\Gamma = 6.7 \text{ keV}$
A.	Target-full n	ninus target-empty yields,			
Κα	34.9	0.06 ± 0.05	0.06 ± 0.05	0.13 ± 0.10	0.08 ± 0.07
Kβ	41.3	0.02 ± 0.07	0.02 ± 0.07	0.03 ± 0.07	
$eK\beta$ (esca	11.7 ape)	0.15 ± 0.12	$\textbf{0.10} \pm \textbf{0.08}$	0.28 ± 0.20	
в.	Target-full s	signal minus out-of-time backs	ground yields, ^b		
Kα		0.09 ± 0.05	0.07 ± 0.06	0.17 ± 0.08	
Kβ		0.10 ± 0.06	0.10 ± 0.07	0.11 ± 0.06	
$eK\beta$		0.07 ± 0.05	0.06 ± 0.05	0.20 ± 0.12	

^aAs predicted from scattering data of Ref. 3.

^bThis difference spectrum yield is dependent on spectrum-matching regions.



FIG. 6. Kaon capture in helium. (a) Signal plus background; (b) background only.

may be a low-energy in-time signal from the empty target, equivalent to that of the 4- minus 2.5- μ sec He-data difference spectrum. Thus the intime signal is consistent with that from the target alone: i.e., there is no He in-time signal.

The difference spectrum of the $4-\mu$ sec helium out-of-time and empty-target out-of-time backgrounds indicated that there is also an out-of-time low-energy He signal. The difference spectra of the 2. $5-\mu$ sec He data and empty-target in-time background versus the $4-\mu$ sec He data and emptytarget in-time background indicated that the lowenergy He signal in the $4-\mu$ sec data is comparable to that in the 2. $5-\mu$ sec He data, again implying that there is only an out-of-time component, since the latter excluded in-time signals.

Figure 9 shows the difference spectrum of the $4-\mu$ sec data and out-of-time background; again,



FIG. 7. Kaon-He capture spectrum minus same data for empty target.

there is no evidence for a He in-time signal. Finally, Fig. 10 illustrates the difference spectrum which contains only the low-energy He in-time signal. It is from these spectra that the *L*-series x-ray limits are determined. The results are given in Table IV. A 50% $L\alpha$ yield would correspond to 1.25×10^3 x rays.

In addition, the total kaon-He data and total 4µsec kaon-He data spectra were fitted with secondorder polynomials. Except for the Xe $K\alpha$ x ray there was no statistical evidence for any superposed line structure. Furthermore, using these data spectra and the corresponding out-of-time background spectra, a maximum-likelihood search indicated an optimum fit for a zero signal level.

C. Results: Other Elements

Muon X Rays

The muon K-series x-ray results in Li and Be, and L-series results in Be and C are given in Table I. Since the μ -Be $K\beta$ x ray generated a xenon $K\alpha$ escape peak at 9.9 keV, the weaker overlapping μ -L β x ray could not be directly determined. To ensure that the $L\alpha$ peak did not include any es-



FIG. 8. Kaon-He data with $4-\mu$ sec gate width. (a) Random (out-of-time) spectrum minus dummy-target random spectrum (the difference represents non-beam-associated x rays from helium); (b) Helium data minus dummy-target data (difference represents beam-associated x-rays from helium).



FIG. 9. Kaon-helium data with $4-\mu$ sec gate. Kaon-helium capture spectrum minus random (out-of-time) back-ground.

cape x rays, the $L\alpha$ yield was determined from the difference spectrum of the long (4- μ sec) and the short (2.5- μ sec) coincidence gate data. The short-gate data excludes most of the low-energy (nones-cape) structure. Subtracting the short coincidence gate data removed the low-energy escape peaks which appeared in both spectra and left only the true low-energy in-time x-ray structure. To es-tablish the *L*-series yield, a 0.15 $L\beta$ yield was assumed.

Pion X Rays

The K- and L-series x-ray results are given in Table II. Using the muon x rays and standard xray sources to establish instrumental linewidth as a function of energy, pion K x-ray natural linewidth measurements were made.

Kaon X Rays

The L- and M-series x-ray yield results in Li, Be, and C are given in Table V. Energy and linewidth measurements are included.

V. MESONIC ATOMS: DEEXCITATION PROCESS

The initial formation of a highly excited state (large principal quantum number n) of the bound meson-nucleus system occurs through the replacement (via the Auger effect) of an atomic electron by a meson. The mesonic history in the outermost levels outside the electronic K shell is unclear; we will mainly concern ourselves with those levels in which the meson is clearly associated with only a single nucleus. Interactions of the mesonic atom with other atoms will be treated as collisions.

one hand, and heavier elements on the other, is made necessary by the nature of the deexcitation cascade. In hydrogen, the meson-nucleus system is neutral; it is physically a hydrogen atom. In isolation, it would lose energy: if in an excited state, by radiation only, a very slow process for highly excited states. The major energy losses and deexcitation, therefore, occur in collisions. A similar process occurs in helium; both electrons are rapidly ejected by the Auger effect, leaving a residual α -mesonic ion (He-M)⁺, which can lose energy only by radiation or by collision, specifically in inelastic collisions of the second kind. Direct transfer of energy from the mesonic atom to one of the electrons in the struck atom occurs via the external Auger effect. The external Auger rates are highest for the largest possible overlap of the mesonic atom states, thus for small Δn , and $\Delta l = -1$. Hence, by this process the mesonic atom would tend to settle into circular orbits, in which l = n - 1. Thus the intensity ratio of, say, $K\alpha$ to the sum of all K-series x rays $K\alpha / \sum K_J$ would be 0.8 or more when the cascade is along the circular level route. This means, e.g., that the 2p level is much more heavily populated than are the higher p states.

A distinction between hydrogen and helium on the

In solids the stripping process is checked by the rapid refilling of the empty internal electron levels from outside. Once the meson-nucleon system contains other electrons, the major deexcitation process shifts to the internal Auger effect, and the rates become relatively independent of the environment. The transition to this behavior occurs, from evidence on Stark-induced transitions to be given later, in the vicinity of lithium.



FIG. 10. Difference between kaon-He capture data with 4- μ sec gate and 2.5- μ sec gate; only low-energy x rays should appear.

	Klain Candan	Viold for unohifted	Viold for line	Viold for line		
energy (keV) line		line	shifted $\Delta E = \pm 0.5$ keV shifted ΔE			
Long-	minus short-coin	cidence-gata data	Target full minus	target empty		
Lα	6.5	0.03 ± 0.07	0.03 ± 0.07	0.07 ± 0.10		
$L\beta$	8.7	0.03 ± 0.04	$\textbf{0.03}\pm\textbf{0.04}$	0.03 ± 0.05		

TABLE IV. Yields of *L*-series x rays from kaon capture in helium.

When *n* is small enough $(n \simeq 5 \text{ in helium})$, radiative transitions begin to dominate the Auger transitions, and x-ray lines appear. In heavier elements the changeover occurs at higher *n* values, the radiation probability varying as Z^4 .

A. Collisional Stark Mixing

The l degeneracy of the hydrogenic levels in the mesonic atom is removed by any external field. In hydrogen and helium, in the absence of collisions, the degeneracy persists. Collisions can produce either a weak or a strong Stark-effect mixing process. In weak mixing, the levels are only slightly perturbed and retain their central-field identity; the main effect of the field is to induce dipole-type (sliding) transitions between neighboring sublevels: $(n, l) \rightarrow (n, l \pm 1)$. In strong mixing, the angular momentum quantum number is replaced by a new one measuring the angular momentum about the axis connecting the two nuclei (the molecular case) and accordingly all the different l substates are mixed; in the case of strongly interacting mesons such as pions and kaons, this leads to immediate nuclear capture, through the admixture of s and pstates.

B. Muonic Atoms

Because of the weak muon-nucleon interaction, muonic cascades can be used to determine the atomic mechanisms¹⁵⁻¹⁷ involved in the deexcitation of all types of mesonic atoms. In particular, the spectral intensity distribution within any x-ray line series provides information concerning the initial capture population and the cascade mechanisms producing the observed populations of various states. The cascade dynamics for pions and kaons can then be determined from the muon cascade, taking into account reduced-mass and nuclear-absorption effects.

C. Pionic Atoms

Rapid nuclear absorption of the pion or kaon from atomic states leads to complex energy shifts of these levels^{18–20} which can be related to the zeroenergy pion- or kaon-nucleus complex scattering lengths. Thus, the interaction between negative mesons and nuclei at small kinetic energy can be studied by observing the mesonic x-ray spectrum.

A convenient representation of the complex pionic level shifts is given by the optical model theory of Ericson and Ericson.²¹ Here the level shift is de-

Element	Line	Energy (keV)	Total series yield (Y _L , Y _M)	Yield α line	Relative intensity $R\alpha = L\alpha / \sum L_J$	3d-state absorption rate Γ_{3d} (sec ⁻¹)
Li	Lα	15.00 ± 0.30	0.16±0.05 ^a		0.55 ± 0.10	$\left(1.45 + 0.90 - 0.48\right) \times 10^{13}$
	Leta	20.80 ± 0.30				
	"Lα'"ъ	12.90 ± 0.30	0.80 ± 0.03			
	"LB'"	18.00 ± 0.30				
Be	Llpha	27.50 ± 0.30	$0.28 + 0.14 \\ - 0.06$	$\alpha = 0.23 \pm 0.03$	$0.82\substack{+0.10\\-0.20}$	$\left(0.93 + 0.36 \\ - 0.29\right) \times 10^{13}$
	"Lα'" ^b	21.00 ± 0.30	0.10 ± 0.03			
С	M lpha	22.30 ± 0.30	0.44 ± 0.10	$\alpha = 0.34 \pm 0.07$	0.77 ± 0.10	$< 6.0 \times 10^{17}$ >7.3 × 10 ¹⁴
	" <i>M</i> α'" ^b	18.45 ± 0.30	0.10 ± 0.03			
Не						>3.0×10 ¹¹

TABLE V. X-ray lines from kaon capture in Li, Be, and C and 3d-state absorption rates.

^aThis yield corresponds to the α , β lines only.

^bQuotes indicate phenomenological terminology; for identification of these lines see Sec. VIIIA.

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scribed by a pion-nucleus interaction potential related to pion-nucleon scattering and the pion-two nucleon (pair correlation) absorption potentials; the level width is determined by the imaginary part of the pion-two nucleon potential. A detailed exposition of this subject has recently been given by Burhop.²²

A study of the deexcitation cascades is particularly relevant to the question of nuclear-absorption states. The gross behavior of the pion- or kaondeexcitation cascade is determined by the strong ldependence of nuclear absorption, which reflects the variation of meson-nucleus overlap with l. Since pion *d*-state absorption rates are small compared to the radiative rates for low-*Z* nuclei, the *L*-series x-ray yield and spectral composition are essentially determined by the initial capture distribution and cascade mechanisms. The *K*-series yields depend strongly on 2p-state nuclear-absorption rates and decrease rapidly with increasing *Z*.

D. Kaonic Atoms

Because of the very strong absorption of kaons, resulting from the strong $\overline{K}N$ interaction, K-series x rays may not be observable, and the L-series xray yields will be very sensitive to the absorption rates in d states. However, the spectral composition of all line series $(L, M, N)^{16}$ will reflect the initial capture distribution and cascade mechanisms.

In contrast, for low Z, the *M*-series x-ray yield is relatively independent of nuclear-absorption rates – the *f*-state absorption being presumably negligible – but is sensitive to the initial capture distribution and the cascade mechanisms.

Of particular interest is the deexcitation cascade in He, in view of the measured long moderation time $(2.4\pm0.4)\times10^{-10}$ sec,²³ the kaon x-ray results of Burleson *et al.*,¹ the results of the $K^-\alpha$ elastic scattering experiments of Boyd *et al.*² and Block *et al.*,³ and those of a recent π , μ x-ray experiment by Wetmore *et al.*,²⁴ which demonstrated an unexpectedly large population of noncircular orbits in low atomic levels. Thus new questions about the pion and kaon cascades and absorption in He have been raised.

E. Σ^{-} -Hyperonic Atoms

No previous experimental data have been available on Σ^- atoms. The hyperon-nucleus interaction is strong; thus absorption from high excited states is to be expected, and in general, there should be a similarity to *K*-nucleus interactions. The fact that the spin of the Σ is $\frac{1}{2}$ and its magnetic moment nonvanishing leads to the possibility of seeing finestructure effects of the sort observed in muon-capture spectra, and may some day lead to a direct experimental determination of the spin and magnetic moment.

VI. DISCUSSION OF RESULTS IN HELIUM

A. Muonic X Rays

The muon and pion work was undertaken initially to supplement and clarify the kaon-He results, particularly the yields. The ZGS is not presently well suited to produce stopping pions or muons. From Table I it is clear that, within their limited accuracy, the energy measurements agree with earlier results. The muon x-ray yield data indicate. even with relatively large errors, that the K-series xray yields in He and Li are less than in Be and higher-Z elements. Spurious decreases of this sort have been observed in the past, which disappeared when better data were obtained.²⁵ However, these data have survived all the tests we have been able to apply to them. They are also supported by independent observation - namely, the anomalous intensity distributions in the muon and pion K-series, and the kaon L-series x rays for which a common explanation exists.

Deexcitation Cascade in Helium

Our data, like earlier experimental results,²⁴ indicate a low value of the ratio, $K\alpha/\Sigma K_J$ in He, which indicates a departure from predominantly circular-orbit meson population.

To investigate further the meson-He cascade process, a modified version of an earlier Monte Carlo computer program described by Michael²⁶ was used. Given an initial population distribution, the program calculates the deexcitation cascade via hydrogenic energy levels of the (He-M)^{*} ion mentioned previously, allowing external (collisional) Auger and radiative transitions. The initial distribution is taken to be of the form $N(l) \sim (2l+1) e^{al}$,¹⁶ and the initial capture level is specified to be somewhere in the neighborhood of the electron K shell; n is then about 12 for muons, 14 for pions, or 24 for kaons. The ion $(M\alpha)^*$ then deexcites according to the above scheme.

The program allows for meson-nucleus absorption in *ns* and *np* states as described by the overlap integrals of these states with the nucleus. For muons, this absorption is eliminated and dipole transitions out of *ns* (n > 3) states are allowed. The original program allowed sliding transitions of only those circular orbits (l = n - 1) with large *n* which are metastable because the external Auger transitions are not energetically allowed.

The experimental results (see Table I) on total muon K series yield Y_K and intensity ratio $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ provide boundary conditions for the cascade calculations. We found that no variation of the cascade starting level from $N_0 = 8$ to 15, nor of the population distribution among different *l*-value substates in the starting level, nor of the Auger transition rates by factors from 10^{-1} to 10 would give as large a $K\beta$ component (3p-state population) as observed, or as small a Y_K as observed.

To produce these results, mixing of the substate populations ("sliding transitions") must occur, which tends to equalize the populations of the low atomic states. Stark-effect (collisional) mixing provides such a mechanism.

Such transitions were first discussed in detail by Ruderman²⁷ in connection with the "missing xray" problem in muonic atoms. He pointed out that the effect of sliding transitions would be to produce deviations from circular orbits, and showed that the electric field from two K-shell electrons was sufficient to produce the desired effect.

To investigate this, the cascade scheme was modified to allow Stark-induced dipole "polarization" transitions of the type $(n, l) \rightarrow (n, l \pm 1)$. The probability is assumed to be given, in the approximation of a constant average electric field during a collision, by

$$\operatorname{const} \times \left| \left\langle n, l \pm 1 \right| E r_n \left| n, l \right\rangle \right|^2 \simeq \left\langle F \right\rangle \left(R_{n,l}^{n,l\pm 1} \right)^2 ,$$

where the rate parameter $\langle F \rangle$ specifies the timeaveraged collisional strength, and $R_{n,l}^{n,l\pm 1}$ are the Coulomb radial dipole matrix elements²⁷:

$$(R_{n,l}^{n,l-1})^2 = 9ln^2 (n^2 - l^2)/4(2l+1) ,$$

$$(R_{n,l}^{n,l+1})^2 = 9(l+1)n^2 [n^2 - (l+1)^2]/4 [2(l+1)+1]$$

Stark mixing of adjacent states was allowed to occur according to its probability relative to all transitions out of the state (n, l).

This sliding transition approximation to the collisional mixing should be applicable for mixing rates small compared to the radiative and Auger rates, as the adjacent sublevels are the most nearly degenerate states.

With the inclusion of Stark mixing, the cascade calculation could now reproduce the experimental results above, with a value of $\langle F \rangle$ about 10⁸ sec⁻¹, representing rather weak collisions.

This mixing rate should not lead to a large population of higher s states, or else the muon $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ ratio would reach large values incompatible with experiment, because of ns - n'p - n''s - 2p transitions. While the weak mixing provides adequate 3p, 2s populations, it does not seriously distort the cascade at higher levels.

The vacuum polarization effect for very low Z elements produces a splitting $E(2p_{1/2}) - E(2s_{1/2})$ of 1.5 eV in He.²⁷ Introducing collisional mixing enhances the allowed transition $2p \rightarrow 2s$, thus increasing the metastable 2s-state population in helium.

B. Pionic X Rays

For the pion cascade, nuclear absorption from the atomic s and p states has been added. The relative nuclear-absorption rates for different n were determined by the ratio of the overlap integrals of the orbital wave functions with the nucleus:

$$\Gamma_{n,0}^c = (1/n^3) \Gamma_{1s}^c$$

and

$$\Gamma_{n,1}^{c} = \left(\frac{32}{3}\right) \left(1 - 1/n^{2}\right) \left(1/n^{3}\right) \Gamma_{2,1}^{c}; \quad \Gamma_{2,1}^{c} \equiv \Gamma_{2b}^{c}$$

We first tried the cascade without collisional mixing and with the 2p-state absorption rate $\Gamma_{2p}^{c} = 0$. For a range of starting levels $N_0 = 10-15$ and initial capture distributions $\alpha = -0.25$, 0.25, the cascade predicts too large values for Y_K and $K\alpha/\sum K_J$, while the $K\beta$ yield is too small. Allowing *p*-state absorption, the cascade will reproduce the experimental yield Y_K , but not the ratio $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ (see Table VII).

As we found for the muons, there is no way to reproduce the experimental *K*-series yield and $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ without introducing sliding transitions. With $\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^8 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ (the same as for muons), the cascade produces results consistent with experiment for a 2p-state absorption rate $\Gamma_{2p}^c = (5 \pm 2) \times 10^{12}$ sec^{-1} , which is determined by the experimental $K\alpha$ and $K\beta$ yields, and the assumed initial capture distribution. The *K*-series yields and $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ values are sensitive to the *p*-capture rate, which explains the difference between the pion and muon spectral composition.

s/p Capture Ratio

For large *n*, the sliding transition rate required by the experimental results does not lead to pion absorption in high *s* states, but allows most pions to reach low *n* levels where *s*-state capture is significant for n < 5. With the given Γ_{2p}^c , the ratio of s/p absorption with $\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^8$, is 1.8. The same cascade without collisional mixing gives s/p = 1.2.

C. Kaon-He Results

Consider the null K^- -He results (Tables III and IV). Recent low-energy K^- -He elastic scattering experiments^{2,3} have given kaon 1s-, 2p-state absorption rates $\Gamma_{1s}^c \simeq 10^{19} \sec^{-1}$ and $\Gamma_{2p}^c \simeq 10^{15} \sec^{-1}$ from the s- and p-wave scattering lengths determined from these data. A p-state absorption rate of this order would prevent the observation of K x rays for any p-state populations because the absorption so strongly dominates the radiation Γ_{2p-1s}^{rad} so sorption so strongly dominates the radiation Γ_{2p-1s}^{rad} so so so strongly dominates the radiation Γ_{2p-1s}^{rad} so so the high $K\alpha$ and $L\alpha$ yields reported by Burleson *et al.*¹ that led to this repetition of their experiment.)

The experimental-yield result $Y(L\alpha)$ when combined with predicted (cascade) 3*d*-state populations, relates the 3*d*-state absorption rate and the radiative transition rate Γ_{3d}^{rad} , $_{2p} = 8.83 \times 10^{11} \text{ sec}^{-1}$. In the absence of *f*-state absorption, the kaon-He cascades predict the following 3d-state populations: 17% for $\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^8$, 5% for $\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^9$, and 47% for $\langle F \rangle = 0.0$; i.e., no "sliding" transitions. Thus, in the absence of sliding transitions, the experimental one-standard-deviation yield limit (10%) gives $\Gamma_{3d}^c \leq 3.2$ $\times 10^{12}$ sec⁻¹. In the absence of collisional mixing, starting at $N_0 = 24$, with initial capture distributions which are not strongly skewed ($\alpha = -0.20$ to $\alpha =$ = 0.20) and a 2*p*-state capture rate $\Gamma_{2b}^{c} \simeq 10^{15} \text{ sec}^{-1}$, the cascade predicts that 90% or more of the kaons would be captured from np states with n < 6 because of the large populations in near-circular orbits. With the same strength for sliding transitions as for pions ($\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^8$), the yield limit (10%) requires $\Gamma_{3d}^{c} \ge 3 \times 10^{11} \text{ sec}^{-1}$. Such a cascade results in 20% absorption of kaons in s states, about 7% in d states, and the remainder in p states. Increasing the mixing rate will decrease the 3d-state population and the inferred minimum Γ_{3d}^c absorption rate. Increasing the rate tenfold from that inferred for the pions, i.e., to $\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^9$, yields only a 5% 3d population, which is within the experimental yield limits on $L\alpha$ even without 3d absorption; i.e., Γ_{3d}

= 0. This leads to increased mixing into higher s states, resulting in about 40% absorption of kaons from s states. All the helium cascade results are summarized in Table VI.

These results indicate that s-state capture can only compete with p-state capture unless the collisional mixing rate is allowed to be larger than that considered.

Optical Model

It is possible to relate the 3*d*-state absorption rate Γ_{3d}^c and the 2*p*-state absorption rate Γ_{2p}^c . Because of the strong *s*-wave absorption in the \overline{KN} interaction, given by ImA (\overline{KN}) , ²⁸ and the absence of *p*-wave scattering at very low energy, ²⁹ it is reasonable to consider a local *s*-wave, single-nucleon absorption model. We take

$$\Gamma_{n,l}^{c} = R \int \rho(r) \left| \psi_{n,l} \right|^2 d^3r,$$

where $\rho(r)$ is the nuclear density described by the shell-model nuclear charge distribution.³⁰ Such a model assumes that the absorption does not severely perturb the Coulomb wave functions. Then $\Gamma_{2p}^{c}/$

TABLE	VI.	Helium	cascade	results.	

		Calculated	Experimental
Muons		0	
$N_0 = 13, \ \alpha = 0.0^a$	F = 0	$F = 10^{\circ}$	
Yield Y _K	0.97	0.80	0.79 ± 0.13
Ratio $K\alpha / \sum K_J$	0.73	0.55	0.58 ± 0.05
$\frac{\text{Pions}}{N_0=13, \ \alpha=0.0}$			
Yield Y_{κ}	0.34	0.21	0.18 ± 0.05
Ratio $K\alpha / \sum K_J$	0.63	0.40	0.40 ± 0.05
Ratio, p/s -state	1.8	1.2	
capture			
Kaons			
$\overline{N_0} = 20, \ \alpha = 0.0$	F = 0	$F = 10^8$	$F = 10^9$
3d popul	47%	16%	5%
Γ_{3d}^c , sec ⁻¹	>3.2×10 ¹²	$> 3 \times 10^{11}$	$\rightarrow 0$
Γ_{2p}^{c} , sec ⁻¹	>1.4×10 ¹⁶	$>1.5 \times 10^{15}$	• • •
Nuclear Absorption for Ex	perimental Yields		
d state	30%	7%	→ 0
þ state	69%	73%	65%
s state	1%	20%	35%
From K^- – He scattering d	lata: Boyd et al. (Ref. 2) Mazur e	t al. (Ref. 3)	
Γ_{2p}^{c}	$(1.1\pm0.4)\times10^{15}$ sec		$(1.43 \pm 0.29) \times 10^{15} \text{ sec}^{-1}$
Γ_{3d}^{c}			$\begin{pmatrix} 3.8 \pm 1.0 \\ 2.9 \pm 0.9 \end{pmatrix} imes 10^{10} m sec^{-1}$
	Calculated cascade tin	ne	Moderation time
Pions	$1.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ sec}$		$(3, 2 \pm 0, 2) \times 10^{-10}$ sec ^b
Kaons	3.0×10^{-11} sec		$(2.4\pm0.4)\times10^{-10}$ sec ^c

^aSkewing parameter of Eisenberg and Kessler (Ref. 16).

^bReference 32.

°Reference 23.

 $\Gamma_{1s}^{c} = 2.85 \times 10^{-4}$ and $\Gamma_{3d}^{c} / \Gamma_{2p}^{c} = 2.23 \times 10^{-4}$.

Using the 3*d* absorption rate $\Gamma_{3d}^c = 5 \pm 2 \times 10^{11} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ inferred for $\langle F \rangle \simeq 10^8$ the absorption relations give $\Gamma_{2p}^c \sim 2.7 \times 10^{15} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and $\Gamma_{1s} \sim 0.95 \times 10^{19} \text{ sec}^{-1}$. In the absence of collisional mixing, $\langle F \rangle = 0.0$, using $\Gamma_{3d}^c \simeq 3.2 \times 10^{12} \text{ sec}^{-1}$, we would obtain $\Gamma_{2p}^c \simeq 1.5 \times 10^{16} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

This result is to be compared with recent K^- -He scattering experiments. Boyd *et al.*² gave $\Gamma_{2p} = (1, 1)$ ± 0.4)×10¹⁵ sec⁻¹ from the imaginary part of the *p*wave phase shift. Block et al.³ have determined s-, p-, and d-wave phase shifts, whose imaginary parts predict a *p*-state absorption rate $\Gamma_p = (0.9)$ ± 0.2 × 10¹⁵ sec⁻¹ and a *d*-state absorption rate Γ_d = $(1.7 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{10}$ sec⁻¹. In order to agree with this d-state absorption rate, our $L\alpha$ x-ray yield limit only requires a mixing rate $(F \simeq 3 \times 10^8)$, a predicted 25% s-state absorption of kaons. However, such a 3d-state absorption rate is lower that suggested by an optical-model fit to our 3d-state absorption rates derived from Li, Be, B, and C.³¹ But the kaon x-ray yield data in helium alone cannot exclude even higher mixing rates, e.g., $F \simeq 10^9$, which predicts only a 5% 3*d*-state population and reduces the 3d-state absorption rate below our threshold for detection while only increasing the s-state absorption to 35%.

D. Cascade Times

Pions

The cascade calculation $(\langle F \rangle = 0.0)$ without sliding transitions yields a cascade time $\tau_c \simeq 1.1 \times 10^{-11}$ sec for $N_0 \simeq 14$; with sliding transitions and $\langle F \rangle$ = 10⁸ it gives $\tau_c = 1.2 \times 10^{-11}$ sec. This is to be compared to the experimental moderation time τ_M = $(3.19 \pm 0.23) \times 10^{-10}$ sec.³²

Kaons

The kaon cascade in He without sliding transitions ($\langle F \rangle = 0.0$) yields cascade times $\tau_c \simeq 2.5 \times 10^{-11}$ sec for $N_0 = 20$ and $\tau_c \simeq 4.6 \times 10^{-11}$ sec for $N_0 = 24$ for a statistical starting level population. Changing the initial distributions between $\alpha = -0.20$ and $\alpha = +0.20$ varies the cascade time about $\pm 10\%$. In the presence of sliding transitions $\langle F \rangle = 10^8$ we find that $\tau_c \simeq 3.0 \times 10^{-11}$ sec⁻¹ for $N_0 = 24$ and $\tau_c \simeq 2.0 \times 10^{-11}$ sec⁻¹ for $N_0 = 20$ with a statistical population in both cases. These cascade times are to be compared with the experimental moderation time $\tau_M = (2.4 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-10}$ sec.²³

The collisional mixing required by the present experimental results diminishes the possibility of trapping in the $(K - \alpha)^+$ cascade for near-circular orbits for n > 16, where dipole external Auger transitions are forbidden. Moving the cascade starting level above $N_0 = 24$ corresponds to kaon orbits in the $(K - \alpha - e)$ system, where an internal

Auger transition may occur. For near-circular orbits, dipole Auger transitions are energetically forbidden, but the mixing could depopulate these states rapidly.

However, Russell³³ has shown that in the $(K - \alpha - e)$ system, the *l* degeneracy of the kaon atomic states of $n \approx 27$ is removed by the perturbation due to the noncentral electron-kaon Coulomb interaction. The energy splitting of the near-circular orbits $(n \approx 27)$ is ~0.5 eV. In such a case, these states would not be mixed by a weak Stark effect, and trapping in the Wightman-Condo^{34,35} "dol-drums" would be effective around $n \approx 27$, delaying the cascade for kaons in the near-circular orbits, and offering a possible explanation for the long moderation times observed.

VII. MUON AND PION CAPTURE IN Li, Be, AND C

A. Muon Deexcitation Cascade in Heavier Elements

The cascade program was adapted to heavier elements by replacing the external Auger transitions with internal K- and L-electron-shell Auger dipole transitions.³⁶ Both the K- and L-shell rates were made variable to allow for a possible K-shell Auger rate limitation by the L-shell external electronic Auger transition refilling rate, and to determine the influence of the direct L-shell Auger transitions.

The muon K- and L-series x-ray results in Li, Be, and C favor a cascade with the initial starting level ($N_0=14$) population slightly biased toward circular orbits ($\alpha = 0.20 \pm 0.20^{+0.10}_{-0.20}$) as indicated in Table VII. The cascade predictions given correspond to calculated K- and L-shell Auger transition rates. Varying these rates by factor of 10⁻¹ to 10 changes the ratio $X\alpha/\Sigma X_J$ only a few percent. Direct Lshell transitions are required by energy conservation in order to allow Auger transitions in higher ($n \gtrsim 10$) levels. The predicted Y_K results from populating the assumed metastable 2s state.

B. Pion Deexcitation Cascades in the Solid Elements

As with the muons, both internal K- and L-shell Auger transitions were considered. The program included s- and p-state absorption effects. Variation of the Auger rates by factors of 10^{-1} to 10 had little effect on the K- and L-series x-ray yields; it influenced mainly the relative yields of higher (β, γ) components of the x-ray line series.

The strong dependence of L x-ray yields on the initial starting-level population distribution indicated that a distribution slightly biased toward circular orbits ($\alpha = 0.20^{+0.10}_{-0.20}$) is required by the experimental Y_L in Be and C (Table VII). The experimental ratio $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ in Li also favors the $\alpha = 0.20$ distribution.

2p-State Linewidths

Using the cascades to predict 3d- and 2p-state

TABLE VII. Experimental versus cascade calculation yields.

	Experimental results		Cascade predictions ^a		Experimental results		Cascade predictions	
	Y_{K}	$K\alpha/\Sigma K_J$	Y_{K}	$K \alpha / \Sigma K_J$	Y_L	$L lpha / \Sigma L_J$	Y_L	$L_{lpha}/\Sigma L_J$
Muons								
He	$\boldsymbol{0.79 \pm 0.13}$	$\textbf{0.58} \pm \textbf{0.05}$	0.97 0.80	0.73 ^b 0.55 ^c				
Li	0.75 ± 0.15	$\textbf{0.72} \pm \textbf{0.05}$	0.81 0.85 ^d	0.62 0.71 ^d				
Be	1.09 ± 0.13	$\textbf{0.83} \pm \textbf{0.07}$	0.88 0.89 ^d	0.59 0.62 ^d	$\textbf{0.38} \pm \textbf{0.09}$	•••	0.27 0.28 ^d	0.87 0.89 ^d
С					0.50 ± 0.10	$\textbf{0.83} \pm \textbf{0.07}$	0.42 0.51 ^d	0.78 0.85 ^d
Pions								
Не	$\textbf{0.18} \pm \textbf{0.05}$	$\textbf{0.40} \pm \textbf{0.05}$	0.34 0.21	0.63 ^e 0.40 ^f				
Li	0.21 ± 0.05	$\textbf{0.70} \pm \textbf{0.06}$	0.25 ^d	0.50				
Ве	$\textbf{0.21} \pm \textbf{0.05}$	$\textbf{0.90} \pm \textbf{0.06}$	0.20 ^d	$0.50 \\ 0.62^{d}$	$\textbf{0.35} \pm \textbf{0.07}$	0.80 ± 0.06	0.21 0.33 ^d	0.82 0.88 ^d
C					0.36 ± 0.10	0.84 ± 0.06	0.33 0.50 ^d	0.75 0.82 ^d

 $^{\rm a}{\rm Statistical}$ capture distribution is assumed unless noted.

^bHelium cascade without collisional mixing.

^cHelium cascade with collisional mixing; $F = 10^8$.

^dBiased circular orbit scheme; $\alpha = 0.20$ for initial capture.

^eNo collisional mixing but $\Gamma_{2p}^{c} = 3.0 \times 10^{12} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

^tCollisional mixing and $\Gamma_{2p}^{c} = 3.0 \times 10^{12} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

populations, the experimental *K*-series x-ray yields establish 2p-state absorption rates in He, Li, Be, and C. These rates, and also some recent results of Koch *et al.*,³⁷ are given in Table II. These experimental pion 2p-state absorption rates



FIG. 11. Comparison of experimental 2p pion absorption rates (partly derived from Monte Carlo calculations) and theoretical predictions.

can be compared to the absolute rates predicted by the optical model of Ericson and Ericson.²¹ In that model, the absorption width (rate) of a level (n, l)is given by

$$\Gamma_{n,l}^{c} = A_{1} \int \rho^{2}(r) \left| \psi_{n,l} \right|^{2} d^{3}r + A_{2} \int \rho^{2}(r) \left| \nabla \psi_{n,l} \right|^{2} d^{3}r,$$

where the first term corresponds to the s-wave part and the second to the p-wave part of the piontwo nucleon optical potential. The constants A_1 , A_2 , taken from Jenkins *et al.*³⁸ were determined from a fit to their data for the width of the 2p, 3d, 4f states in intermediate and high-Z pionic atoms. These values agree well with those calculated by Ericson from pion production by two nucleons. For calculational purposes, the nuclear density has been taken to be described by nuclear shell-theory charge distributions.³⁰ A comparison of the experimental Γ_{2p}^{c} and the absolute rates determined by the optical model are given in Table II and shown in Fig. 11.

1s-State Level Shifts and Linewidths

While no pion $K\alpha$ x ray energy shift has been detected in He, energy shifts have been observed in Li and Be (Table II). Because of the large instrumental linewidths and muon contamination effects, natural line broadening was detected only in Be, while limits are given in Li and He. The best $K\alpha$ linewidth limit in helium comes from Wetmore $et al., {}^{24} \Gamma_{1s}^{c} < 1.3 \times 10^{17} \text{ sec}^{-1}.$

An independent estimate of the 1s-state linewidth



FIG. 12. X-ray spectra from kaon capture in lithium: (a) target in minus target out; (b) intime data minus random (out-oftime) data.

in helium can be obtained from the 2*p*-state absorption rate derived from the cascade calculations, and the ratio of 2*p*-to-1*s* absorption rates given by overlap integrals. The result is $\Gamma_{2p}^c / \Gamma_{1s}^c \simeq 1.6 \times 10^{-4}$. The experimental *K*-series x-ray yield data and cascade calculations indicate that $\Gamma_{2p}^c = (5.0 \pm 2.0) \times 10^{12} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ which gives $\Gamma_{1s}^c = 3.1 \pm 1.2 \times 10^{16} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

Table II provides a comparison of the experimental pion K x-ray results with the theoretical energy shift and linewidth predictions of the optical model,²¹ and the linewidth predictions of the two-nucleon absorption mode.¹⁸ The experimental 1s level widths are consistent with the predictions of the twonucleon absorption model.

VIII. Kaon Li, Be, AND C RESULTS

Examples of spectra are shown in Figs. 12-14. The results of fitting line shapes to all the structure in these spectra are given in Table V. Within this set the $M\alpha$ line in C, the $L\alpha$ line in Be, and $L\alpha$, $L\beta$



FIG. 13. X-ray spectra from kaon capture in beryllium: (a) in-time data minus random (outof-time) data; (b) target in minus target out.



FIG. 14. Same as Fig. 13, for capture in carbon.

lines in Li have been identified. The measured energies of these lines agree with the corresponding Klein-Gordon energies. Since the vacuum polarization and nuclear finite-size corrections are very small in the 2p, 3d, 4f, etc. states, the good agreement of the experimental and theoretical energies indicates the absence of large nuclear-absorption energy shifts of the levels involved.

A. Additional Lines in the X-Ray Spectra

The additional statistically significant resolved structure in these spectra consists of an $M\alpha'$ (18.45-keV) line in C, and $L\beta'(18.00-\text{keV})$ and $L\alpha'$ (12.90-keV) in Li, and a possible $L\alpha'(21.00-\text{keV})$ in Be (where the terminology is arbitrary).

The additional line in C is also indicated in the spectrum of Wiegand and Mack.³⁹ From a strictly statistical standpoint, these lines are present to confidence levels of 99% or better. We have considered the following possibilities as sources of these lines.

(a) Background effects: These lines are absent from the corresponding no-target and out-of-time (random) background spectra. Because of the purity (>99%) of the stopping K^- signal,⁷ this indicates that the lines are associated with kaons stopping in the targets.

(b) Additional kaon x-ray lines due to nuclear effects: The L series could be split if the (3p - 2s) and (4p - 2s) transitions differ in energy from the $L\alpha$ (3d - 2p) and $L\beta$ (4d - 2p) lines, as a result of

a nuclear interaction shift of the 2s state (see Fig. 15). If this is true, the measured energy and width of the 2s state can be scaled with overlap integrals to find the corresponding parameters for the 1s state. The resulting 1s state is well defined (width and energy shift small compared to the binding energy). We then expect to see the $K\beta$ and $K\gamma$ transitions to the 1s state from the 3p and 4p states, with rates predictably greater than those to the 2s state. But such lines are not observed.³⁹ Moreover, the p- and d-state nuclear-absorption rates inferred from the cascade calculations described below are large and do not allow such an interpretation. The possibility that the additional line in the C spectrum could be a shifted $M\alpha$ transition $(4d \rightarrow 3p)$ is similarly ruled out.

(c) Miscellaneous: We have not been able to







identify these lines as nuclear γ rays, fluorescence x rays, or as escape peaks from higher-energy x-ray lines.

(d) Secondary pion x-ray lines: Absorbed kaons produce negative pions which when stopped emit pionic x rays. Pion capture in counters, moderators, etc., can be excluded because all the observed lines are target dependent. Capture in the targets should yield characteristic pion spectra, but only in carbon can an observed line be identified with a prominent $(L\alpha)$ pion target-capture line. However, an equally thick Be target shows no Be pion lines, and one would have to postulate significant differences in the pion yield or spectra in the two elements to explain this. The lines observed in Li cannot be fitted to pion capture x rays. Weigand and $Mack^{39}$ also saw this line in C, and since they used thinner targets, this tends to argue against the pionic interpretation of its origin.

(e) Σ^{-} atoms: In the absence of experimental data on Σ^- yields following K⁻ capture in Li, Be, and C, we interpolate between the measured yields of Σ^{-} hyperons from kaon capture in helium and heavy-liquid bubble chambers⁴⁰ to find that about 15% of stopped kaons should produce Σ^- hyperons. Assuming the same Σ^- momentum spectrum as that observed in helium,⁴⁰ we find that about 50% of the Σ^{-} 's produced would stop in our Li target. The uncorrected Dirac energies of the $M\alpha$ and $M\beta$ transitions of Σ^- x rays in Li are 11.8 and 17.2 keV. If we identify the additional lines in the Li spectrum with these, we require a downward (attractive) energy shift of the 3d state of 0.95 ± 0.30 keV, which is not unreasonable. The respective $M\alpha$ and $M\beta$ yields are 0.4 ± 0.2 and 0.7 ± 0.4, which again are reasonable.

The Be spectrum is consistent with the presence of the $\Sigma^- M\alpha$ (21.7-keV, unshifted) line also, as well as unresolved low-energy kaon or $\Sigma^- N$ -series lines. The yield would be $YM\alpha = 0.8 \pm 0.4$. In C, the situation is less clear, however. The 18.45keV line would have to be identified (implausibly) as an unshifted $\Sigma^- (10 - 6)$ transition (18.4 keV), or as a shifted $\Sigma^- (5 - 4)$ transition (23.3 keV) or $\Sigma^- (7 - 5)$ transition (20.3 keV). The yield, estimated as above, would be (0.8 ± 0.4).

In the case of Li the interpretation as Σ -capture x rays appears the most plausible. The evidence in Be is more equivocal, but favors the interpretation as $\Sigma M\alpha$. In C the interpretation as a pion capture line seems most likely. If Σ lines appear, some pion lines could also appear, so these are not necessarily conflicting. Clearly, more data with improved resolution are needed.

B. Cascade Calculations in Li, Be, and C

The modified cascade program, adapted to higher-Z values, as previously described for the pion

cascades, was used to derive d-state absorption rates.

Cascade in Be

The $L\alpha$ yield is essentially independent of the starting level N_0 , *p*-state absorption rates, and Auger transition rates. A statistical capture distribution ($\alpha = 0.0$) predicts a yield of $L\alpha = 0.19$, marginally consistent with the experimental yield 0.23 ± 0.03 even assuming no *d*-state absorption.

Taking $\alpha = 0.20$ for the initial capture population, and neglecting 3d-state absorption, the cascade predicts an $L\alpha$ yield of 0.37. From the experimental yield Γ_{3d-2p}^{rad} we obtain a 3d-state absorption rate (Table V).

The observed upper limit to the natural linewidth of the $L\alpha$ x-ray ($\Gamma_n < 0.22$ keV) establishes an upper limit on the 2p-state absorption rate, $\Gamma_{2p}^c < 3.4 \times 10^{17}$ sec⁻¹.

Cascades in C

The 4*f*-state population determines the $M\alpha$ xray yield. For $\alpha = 0.20$, the cascade-predicted 4*f*state population (0.37) is consistent with the experimental yield (0.34 ± 0.07) and establishes an upper limit of the 4*f*-state absorption rate: $\Gamma_{4f}^c < 2.5 \times 10^{12} \text{ sec}^{-1}$. A statistical capture distribution ($\alpha = 0.0$) predicts a smaller $M\alpha$ yield (0.22) than that observed even in the absence of the 4*f*-state absorption.

From the results of Wiegand and Mack,³⁹ the $L\alpha$ yield is less than 0.04 in C. Taking $\alpha = 0.20$ for the initial capture population and neglecting 4*f*-state absorption, the cascade gives $L\alpha = 0.38$. From the yield limit 0.04, and Γ_{3d+2p}^{rad} , we obtain a lower limit on the 3*d*-state absorption rate (Table V). Absorption from the *d* states will not seriously affect the 3*d*-state population given by the cascade as $l \rightarrow l - 1$ transitions dominate. An upper limit on the 3*d*-state absorption can be obtained from the natural linewidth of the $M\alpha$ x ray ($\Gamma_n < 0.40$ keV) (Table V).

Cascade in Li

Taking $\alpha = 0.20$ for the initial capture distribution as suggested by the pion data, the cascade without *d*-state absorption predicts a yield of 0.37. From the observed value 0.09 ± 0.03, and Γ_{3p+2p}^{rad} , we obtain a 3*d*-state absorption rate (Table V). This *d*-state absorption rate will reduce the predicted $L\alpha/\Sigma L_J$ from 0.70 to a value $\simeq 0.60$ for $\alpha = 0.20$, because of the differing absorption in the 3*d* and 4*d* states given by the overlap integrals; this value is in agreement with the observed $L\alpha/\Sigma L_J = (0.55 \pm 0.10)$.

Although limited in accuracy, the $L\alpha$, $L\beta$ linewidth measurements yield a natural linewidth upper limit $\Gamma_n < 0.30$ keV and a 2p-state absorption rate

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FIG. 16. L-series x-ray yields from kaon capture in light elements: total L-series yield and $L\alpha$ yields.

$\Gamma_{2b}^{c} < 4.7 \times 10^{17} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

Comparison with Other Data

A comparison of the present yield results with those of Wiegand and Mack³⁹ in Fig. 16 indicates that the most obvious difference in the results of the two experiments lies in the trend of the $L\alpha$ yield versus Z. Our results imply a maximal $L\alpha$ yield in Be with the yield decreasing in Li toward zero in He. The results of Wiegand and Mack indicate, minimally, no decrease in $L\alpha$ yield in going from Be to Li. However, the total L yields for the two experiments are consistent. The present kaon-He L x-ray result, and the observed $K\alpha/\sum K_J$ and Y_K for pions and muons, would suggest a decrease in $L\alpha$, Y_L for kaons in Li compared to Be.

Figure 17 illustrates the experimental kaon 3dstate absorption rates versus Z compared to those predicted by the s-wave overlap integrals normalized to the lower limit on the carbon 3d-state absorption rate, and to the absolute absorption rates calculated by Rook⁴¹ following the model of Burhop⁴² based on \overline{KN} absorption cross sections. The kaon 3d-states absorption rates, as here determined, seem reasonably well described by the simple swave \overline{KN} optical-absorption model.

IX. SUMMARY

In conclusion, the present experimental results for muons indicate that muonic atoms in the light solid elements can be understood in terms of the normal electromagnetic deexcitation cascade dominated by internal Auger transitions, with an initial capture distribution slightly biased toward circular orbits ($\alpha = 0.20 \pm 0.10$); and the metastability of the muonic 2s state.

The biasing of the initial capture distribution, required for the cascade starting at or below the electron K-shell radius, may be a reflection of processes following initial capture in higher n levels. Energy conservation in Auger transitions

of the muons from near-circular orbits in these higher *n* levels requires a large Δn and Δl as described. As the transition rate decreases rapidly with increasing Δl , muons in such states will deexcite with a minimum Δl and thus tend to enrich the population of the near-circular orbits in the lower part of the cascade (below the electron *K* shell).

For helium, the muon results can be explained only by invoking weak collisional Stark effects. In particular, for an initial statistical capture distribution, the experimental muon K-series x-ray results can be reproduced by a cascade involving external Auger and radiative transitions along with weak (adjacent state $n, l \rightarrow n, l \pm 1$) Stark mixing.

The preference for an initial statistical capture distribution for the cascade calculations in helium may reflect the effect of the Stark mixing on the populations of atomic states given by initial capture at higher n levels.

Again, for pions the same conclusions apply, with the addition of nuclear absorption from atomic s and p states. Cascade calculations, in conjunction with the experimental pion *K*-series x-ray yields, give pion 2p-state absorption rates in agreement with the optical model of Ericson and Ericson.²¹ The same model predicts 1s-state energy shifts and absorption rates in good agreement with the experimental results.

For kaons, the identified kaonic x-ray results in the light solid elements can likewise be understood in terms of the normal deexcitation cascade with the same initial capture distribution biased toward circular orbits ($\alpha = 0.20^{+0.10}_{-0.20}$) and 3*d*-state absorption rates describable by a simple optical model.



FIG. 17. Comparison of experimental and theoretical 3d kaon absorption rates in light elements.

In helium, the kaon null results can be understood by invoking the same amount of collisional mixing as required by muons and pions, and a 3dstate absorption consistent with the 1s, 2p absorption rates and ratio Γ_{2p}/Γ_{1s} given by recent kaon- α elastic scattering experiments. They provide significant, but not definitive, information concerning the amount of s-, p-, and d-state capture, and the experimental moderation time; they do not establish an upper limit on the collisional mixing rate for the $(K\alpha)^+$ system.

The additional line structure in the kaon Li and Be spectra is consistent with and apparently explicable only as *M*-series Σ^{-} x-ray lines. The line in the kaonic C spectrum seems to be best described as the pionic $L\alpha$ x-ray line.

It is clear that in neither pionic nor kaonic helium atoms does nuclear capture occur exclusively from

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a single state; it occurs from states with two or three different l values.

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Magnetic Moments of Five Levels in the Ground-State Configuration of N_1 and O_{11}

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The atomic g_j factor for the ${}^2D_{5/2, 3/2}$, ${}^2P_{3/2, 1/2}$, and ${}^4S_{3/2}$ levels of p^3 configurations of N I and O II have been calculated with precise Hartree-Fock wave functions. These values are compared with available experimental results. The observed discrepancies are seen to be too large to be attributable to the use of Hartree-Fock wave functions.

I. CALCULATIONS

Five levels arise from the three Russell-Saunders terms of a p^3 configuration. These are ${}^4S_{3/2}$, ${}^2D_{5/2,3/2}$, and ${}^2P_{3/2,1/2}$. The Landé g_J factors for these levels are affected by various corrections which have been discussed in several papers.¹⁻⁵ Of these, the so-called relativistic and diamagnetic corrections are calculated by taking the expectation value of the Hamiltonian^{4, 5}

$$\delta Z = \delta Z_1 + \delta Z_2 + \delta Z_3 + \delta Z_4 + \delta Z_5,$$

where

$$\begin{split} \delta Z_1 &= -\beta \vec{\mathbf{H}} \cdot \sum \left(\vec{1}_i + \vec{\sigma}_i \right) T_i / mc^2, \\ \delta Z_2 &= -\left(\beta e^2 Z / 2mc^2 \right) \sum_i \left[\nabla_i (1/r_i) \times \vec{\mathbf{A}}_i \right] \cdot \vec{\sigma}_i, \\ \delta Z_3 &= \left(\beta e^2 / 2mc^2 \right) \sum_{\substack{i \neq k}} \left[\nabla_i (1/r_{ik}) \times \vec{\mathbf{A}}_i \right] \cdot \vec{\sigma}_i, \\ \delta Z_4 &= \left(\beta e^2 / 2mc^2 \right) \sum_{\substack{i \neq k}} \left[\nabla_i (1/r_{ik}) \times \vec{\mathbf{A}}_i \right] \cdot 2\vec{\sigma}_k, \\ \delta Z_5 &= -\left(e^3 / 2m^2c^3 \right) \sum_{\substack{i \neq k}} r_{ik}^{-1} \left(\vec{\mathbf{A}}_i \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}}_k \right) + r_{ik}^{-3} \left(\vec{\mathbf{r}}_{ik} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{A}}_i \right) \\ \left(\vec{\mathbf{r}}_{ik} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{p}}_k \right) \right] \end{split}$$

In the case of single-determinant wave functions of atomic states, this expectation value has been reduced to radial integrals by Kambe and Van Vleck.⁵ The corresponding value for other states can often be obtained by using a diagonal-rule procedure. In the case of the p^3 configuration however, this procedure is possible for evaluating the corrections of only the ${}^{2}D_{5/2}$ and ${}^{4}S_{3/2}$ levels. For the ${}^{2}D_{3/2}$ and ${}^{2}P_{1/2}$ levels one must calculate the expectation value directly with the LS-coupled wave functions. If we designate with the letters A, B, C, D, and E the

Slater determinants $(1^{+}, 1^{-}, 0^{+})$, $(1^{+}, 0^{+}, 0^{-})$, $(1^{+}, 1^{-}, -1^{+})$, $(1^{+}, 1^{-}, 0^{-})$, and $(1^{+}, 0^{+}, -1^{+})$, respectively, the *LS*-coupled functions of interest are

$${}^{2}D_{5/2}^{5/2} = A, \quad {}^{2}D_{5/2}^{3/2} = (1/\sqrt{10}) (2B - 2C - \sqrt{2}D),$$
$${}^{2}D_{3/2}^{3/2} = (1/\sqrt{10}) (B - C + \sqrt{8}D),$$
$${}^{2}P_{3/2}^{3/2} = (1/\sqrt{2}) (B + C), \quad {}^{4}S_{3/2}^{3/2} = E.$$

It is clear, then, that except for the ${}^{2}D_{5/2}$ and ${}^{4}S_{3/2}$ levels, it is necessary to calculate the matrix elements of δZ between determinants differing in the quantum numbers of one or two electrons. We have obtained formulas for the matrix elements of δZ_{1} and and δZ_{2} between determinants S and S' differing in the m_{s} , m_{1} values of one electron. These formulas are

$$\langle S | \delta Z_1 | S' \rangle = -(-1)^P (\beta H/mc^2) \,\delta(l, l') \,\delta(m_s, m'_s)$$

$$\times \langle nl | T | n'l' \rangle (m'_l + 2m'_s), \qquad (3)$$

$$\cdot \langle S | \delta Z_2 | S' \rangle = -(-1)^P (\beta e^2 Z/2mc^2) \,\delta(m_l + m_s, m'_l + m'_s)$$

$$\times [m'_{s}/(2l+1)(2l+3)]$$

$$\times \{(l \pm m_{l}+1)(l \mp m'_{l}+1)[(l+1)^{2} - (m'_{l})^{2}]\}^{1/2}$$

$$+ [m_{s}/(2l-1)(2l+1)]$$

$$\times \{(l \pm m'_{l})(l \mp m_{l})[l^{2} - (m'_{l})^{2}]\}^{1/2} . (4)$$

In Eqs. (3) and (4) the double signs before m and m' refer to m_s and m'_s ; i.e., the upper sign in m is chosen if $m_s = +\frac{1}{2}$ and the lower if $m_s = -\frac{1}{2}$.