

NASA TECHNICAL NOTE



NASA TN D-5569

e. 1

NASA TN D-5569

LOAN COPY: RETURN TO  
AFWL (WL0L)  
KIRTLAND AFB, N MEX



# ALPHA-GAMMA ANGULAR CORRELATIONS IN THE REACTION

$\text{TIN-120} (\alpha, \alpha' \gamma_{1.18\text{MeV}})$

*by Regis F. Leonard, William M. Stewart, and Norton Baron*

*Lewis Research Center*

*Cleveland, Ohio*



0132362

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Report No.<br>NASA TN D-5569   | 2. Government Accession No.                            | 3. Recipient's Catalog No.                              |
| 4. Title and Subtitle<br>ALPHA-GAMMA ANGULAR CORRELATIONS IN THE REACTION TIN-120 ( $\alpha, \alpha'\gamma_{1.18\text{MeV}}$ )  |  | 5. Report Date<br>December 1969                         |
|   |  | 6. Performing Organization Code                         |
| 7. Author(s)<br>Regis F. Leonard, William M. Stewart, and Norton Baron  |  | 8. Performing Organization Report No.<br>E-5181         |
| 9. Performing Organization Name and Address<br>Lewis Research Center<br>National Aeronautics and Space Administration<br>Cleveland, Ohio 44135  |  | 10. Work Unit No.<br>129-02                             |
|   |  | 11. Contract or Grant No.                               |
| 12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address<br>National Aeronautics and Space Administration<br>Washington, D. C. 20546  |  | 13. Type of Report and Period Covered<br>Technical Note |
|   |  | 14. Sponsoring Agency Code                              |
| 15. Supplementary Notes   |  |   |
| 16. Abstract<br>The angular correlation between inelastically scattered 42-MeV alpha particles and gamma rays emitted in the subsequent nuclear decay has been studied for the 1.18 MeV ( $2^+$ ) state of tin-120. The symmetry angle and the magnitude of the anisotropy of the gamma distribution have been measured for alpha-scattering angles between $15^\circ$ and $60^\circ$ . The results are compared with the distorted-wave predictions and with the adiabatic model. The observed symmetry angles in no way aid in removing the optical model ambiguities that exist for 42-MeV alpha particle scattering on tin. |  |   |
| 17. Key Words (Suggested by Author(s))<br>$^{120}\text{Sn}(\alpha, \alpha'\gamma_{1.18\text{MeV}})$<br>Alpha-gamma correlations   | 18. Distribution Statement<br>Unclassified - unlimited |   |
| 19. Security Classif. (of this report)<br>Unclassified  | 20. Security Classif. (of this page)<br>Unclassified   | 21. No. of Pages<br>20                                  |
|   |  | 22. Price*<br>\$3.00                                    |

\*For sale by the Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information  
Springfield, Virginia 22151

# ALPHA-GAMMA ANGULAR CORRELATIONS IN THE

## REACTION TIN-120 ( $\alpha, \alpha'\gamma_{1.18\text{MeV}}$ )

by Regis F. Leonard, William M. Stewart, and Norton Baron

Lewis Research Center

### SUMMARY

The angular correlation between inelastically scattered alpha particles and gamma rays emitted in the subsequent nuclear decay has been measured for scattering with excitation of the 1.176-MeV state of tin-120. The symmetry angle of the gamma distribution has been measured for center-of-mass scattering angles between  $15^\circ$  and  $60^\circ$ . The experimentally observed symmetry angles were close to the adiabatic predictions over the range of alpha-particle scattering angles  $\theta_\alpha$  studied, except for a rapid rotation at  $\theta_\alpha = 24^\circ$ , and a possible one at  $\theta_\alpha = 15^\circ$ . The results are compared with the predictions of a distorted-wave Born calculation performed using a wide range of optical model potentials, none of which predicted the rotations found in the data.

### INTRODUCTION

The inelastic scattering of medium energy alpha particles excites predominately collective states, and in particular, the first  $2^+$  state of even-even nuclei. Several theories can predict the cross section for the scattering of alpha particles for nuclei in the mass region of tin with fairly good results. The angular correlation, however, is more sensitive to the details of the calculation because it depends on the phases of the transition amplitudes, while the cross section depends only on the magnitudes.

Previously the differential cross section for the elastic and first  $2^+$  state of tin-120 ( $^{120}\text{Sn}$ ) have been measured (ref. 1). Good four-parameter optical model fits were obtained for the elastic scattering data. The optical model analysis of the elastic tin data showed considerable ambiguity in the optical model parameters obtained, as is common in the scattering of medium energy alpha particles. It has been shown (ref. 2), that in the mass region of tin the ambiguities are due to a surface reflection as opposed to the volume absorption found in the lighter nuclei (ref. 3).

The distorted-wave Born approximation (DWBA) calculation for the inelastic scattering to the first  $2^+$  state of  $^{120}\text{Sn}$  were of no help in removing the optical model ambiguities because the DWBA fits to the inelastic data were essentially equivalent for all sets of optical model parameters.

The measurement of the angular correlation between the inelastically scattered alpha particle and the de-excitation gamma ray from the 1.176-MeV state was undertaken in hopes of obtaining useful data complimenting the scattering cross sections. It was hoped that the DWBA predictions of the correlation pattern would allow us to obtain a unique set of optical model parameters. If this could be done, then, in the framework of the direct reaction theory, we would have a better understanding of the alpha scattering reaction mechanism.

## SYMBOLS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| A                                      | magnitude of isotropic component of alpha-gamma correlation function  |
| $a_i$                                  | diffuseness of form factor for imaginary part of optical potential  |
| $a_o$                                  | diffuseness of form factor for real part of optical potential   |
| B                                      | magnitude of anisotropic component of alpha-gamma correlation function                                      |
| $F_{LM}$                               | reduced transition amplitude  |
| $\langle j_1 m_1 j_2 m_2 / JM \rangle$ | Clebsh-Gordan coefficient for addition of angular momentum $j_1 m_1$ and $j_2 m_2$ to obtain resultant $JM$ |
| k                                      | wave number of incident alpha particle  |
| L                                      | orbital angular momentum  |
| N                                      | number of data points used in optical model search  |
| $n_i$                                  | number of parameters used in optical model search   |
| $R_o$                                  | nuclear radius constant   |
| r                                      | simiclassical interaction radius  |
| $r_i$                                  | radius of form factor for imaginary part of optical model potential   |
| $r_o$                                  | radius of form factor for real part of optical model potential  |
| V                                      | strength of real part of nuclear optical potential  |
| V(r)                                   | nuclear optical potential   |

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| $W$                      | strength of imaginary part of nuclear optical potential            |
| $W(\theta_\gamma)$       | correlation pattern in reaction plane                              |
| $Y_l^m(\theta, \varphi)$ | spherical harmonic of order $l, m$                                 |
| $\theta_0$               | symmetry angle of alpha-gamma correlation function                 |
| $\theta_\alpha$          | scattering angle for alpha particles in center of mass system      |
| $\theta_\gamma$          | angle of emission of gamma-ray relative to incident beam direction |
| $d\sigma/d\Omega$        | differential cross section   |
| $\varphi$                | azimuthal angle for coordinate system                              |
| $\chi^2$                 | measure of statistical goodness of fit                             |

## EXPERIMENTAL ARRANGEMENT

### Beam Handling

The experiment was performed using the  $42.0 \pm 0.2$ -MeV alpha particle beam of the NASA 152-centimeter cyclotron. A schematic diagram of the scattering system is shown in figure 1. The system was designed to reduce the gamma-ray background to a minimum in the target area. The cyclotron beam is focused by a quadrupole magnet on slit  $S_1$ , set at a width of 1 millimeter. Slit  $S_1$  acts as a source slit for the  $60^\circ$  magnet. The magnet's principal purpose in this experiment was simply to bend the beam into the scattering chamber and away from the neutrons coming down the original beam line. Slit  $S_2$ , which was located 56 centimeters from the exit of the magnet, was ordinarily set to a width of about 1 millimeter. Slit  $S_3$ , located 159 centimeters from the exit of the magnet and set at a width of 1.5 millimeters, defined the direction of the beam incident on the target. Slit  $S_3$  was 327 centimeters from the target and was located inside the concrete shielding wall, with 90 centimeters of lead shielding placed behind it to reduce unwanted slit scattering and gamma rays in the target area. The Faraday cup was removed from the target room by passing the beam duct through a hole in the wall 300 centimeters from the target. The Faraday cup was located 137 centimeters in the ground behind the target room wall. The unwanted gamma-ray background was very low for the system and the gamma-ray detector count rate showed only a few percent increase for the beam passing through the scattering chamber with no target in the beam.

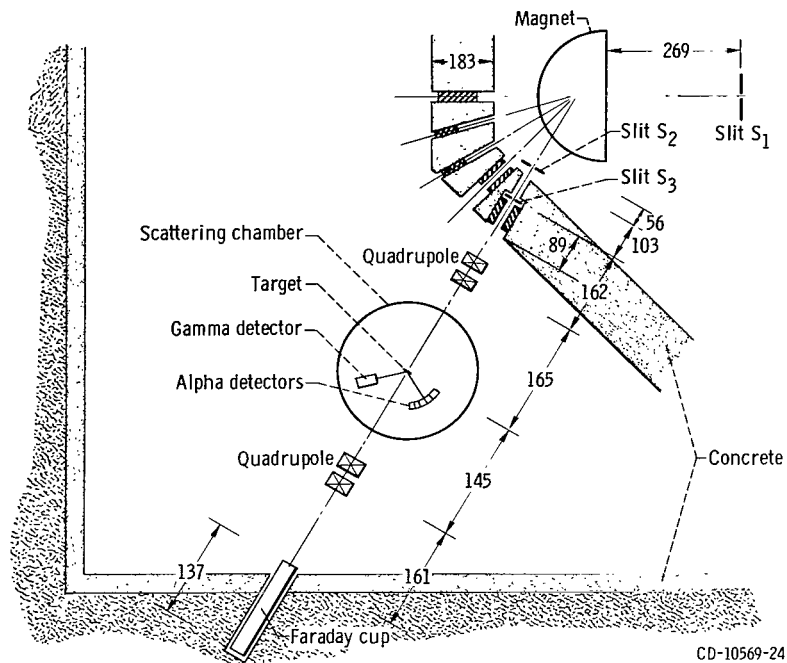


Figure 1. - Schematic diagram of scattering system. (All dimensions are in cm.)

## Detectors

The charged particles were detected in lithium-drifted solid-state detectors, which were produced at Lewis (ref. 4). Ten detectors were employed simultaneously in a mount previously described (ref. 4). The detectors were separated by  $4^\circ$  and had a full angular resolution of  $1^\circ$  for angles greater than  $25^\circ$ , and  $0.25^\circ$  for smaller angles. The mean alpha scattering angle was known with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.05^\circ$ .

Gamma rays were detected by a 7.62- by 7.62-centimeter sodium iodide (Tl) crystal. The front face of the detector was 12.7 centimeters from the target and the full angle subtended by the detector was about  $35^\circ$ .

## Electronics

The electronics used have been described in detail in reference 5. They were for the most part commercially available units except for the 16-channel router, which was designed and built at this laboratory by T. E. Fessler. A schematic diagram of the electronics is shown in figure 2. The signals from the individual preamplifiers were mixed in the router and proper logic performed so that they were routed to one of the sixteen 256 channel subgroups of the analyzer memory. The coincidence arrangement was a

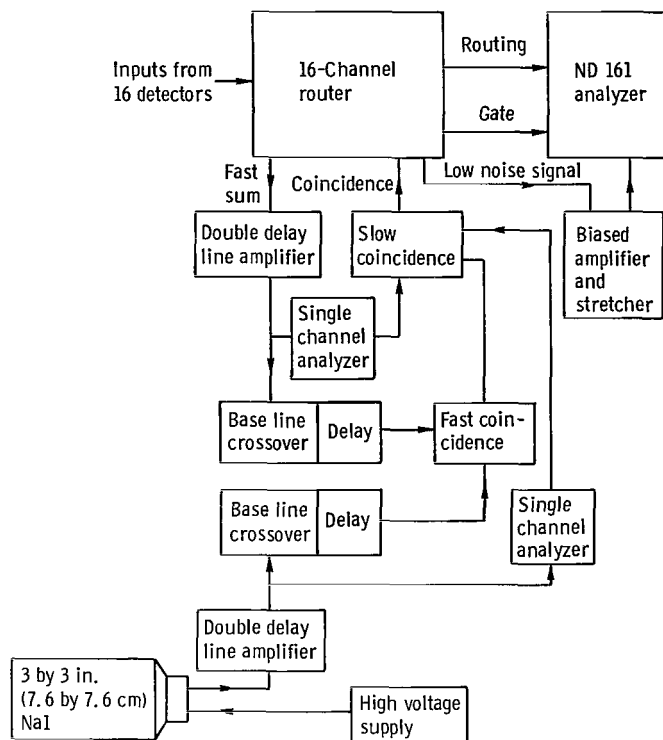


Figure 2. - Multidetector coincidence arrangement using 16-channel router.

typical fast-slow coincidence setup, using crossover pickoff for the fast timing signal. The gamma single-channel analyzer was set so that there was energy selection on the coincidence requirements. The resolving time of the fast-coincidence circuit was run at 50 nanoseconds, which is approximately half of the cyclotron duty cycle.

## EXPERIMENTAL DATA

The raw data for this experiment consisted of the energy spectra of the scattered alpha particles taken in coincidence with the 1.176-MeV gamma ray from the de-excitation of the first  $2^+$  state of  $^{120}\text{Sn}$ . Typical results are shown in figure 3. The number of counts in each peak of the spectrum was determined by summing the appropriate analyzer channels and subtracting the accidental coincidences. These random counts were determined by using the fact that all elastically scattered alpha particles in the coincidence spectrum are accidental. The number of elastic counts in the coincidence spectrum multiplied by the ratio of the inelastic (first  $2^+$  state) cross section to the elastic cross section gave one the number of random counts in each coincidence spectrum. Before and

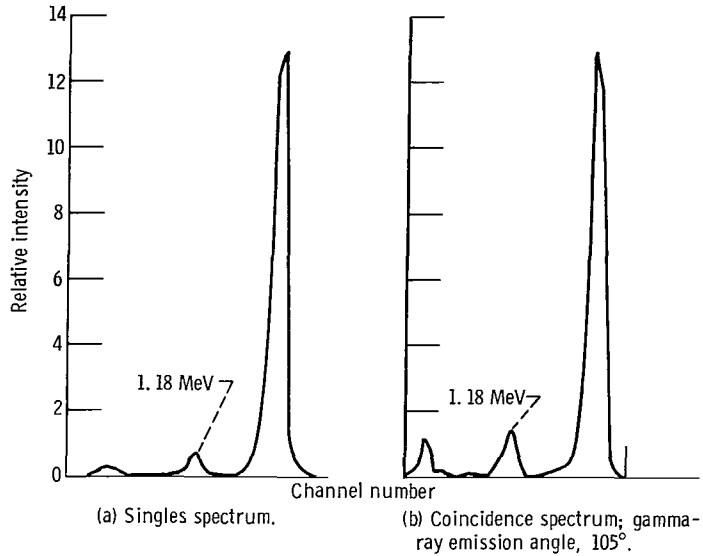


Figure 3. - Typical spectra of alpha particles scattered from the reaction tin-120 ( $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha'$ ). Alpha-particle scattering angle, 36°.

after each coincidence run a singles run was made to check the ratio of the inelastic to the elastic cross section. The average of the before and after singles runs taken over the range of the 10 gamma angles was used in the random count correction.

The experimental data were taken over angular ranges of  $15^\circ \leq \theta_\alpha \leq 60^\circ$  and  $45^\circ \leq \theta_\gamma \leq 145^\circ$ . The gamma angular range was covered in  $10^\circ$  steps and the alpha-particle range in  $2^\circ$  steps. The coincidence runs were normalized relative to a monitor alpha detector located at approximately  $30^\circ$  below the beam line in the forward direction. Experimental difficulties arose chiefly from two sources. The first is the relatively small fraction of the total reaction cross section (approximately 2 barns), which may be attributed to inelastic scattering. This results in a large target-induced gamma-ray background. This is evident in that no photopeak corresponding to the 1.176-MeV gamma was visible in the gamma-ray spectrum shown in figure 4. As a result the true-to-chance ratio for the currents used (25 nA at angles larger than  $25^\circ$ ) averaged a rather poor one to six. Second, as seen in figure 5, at forward angles the elastic cross section is several orders of magnitude larger than the inelastic cross section. Consequently, it became extremely difficult to resolve the inelastically scattered alpha from the low-energy tail of the elastically scattered ones. As a result it was impossible to obtain correlation data at angles smaller than  $15^\circ$ .

For the sequence of spins ( $0^+ \rightarrow 2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ ) the form of the correlation pattern  $W(\theta_\gamma)$  in the reaction plane for a fixed alpha scattering angle is (ref. 6)

$$W(\theta_\gamma) = A + B \sin^2 2(\theta_\gamma - \theta_0) \quad (1)$$



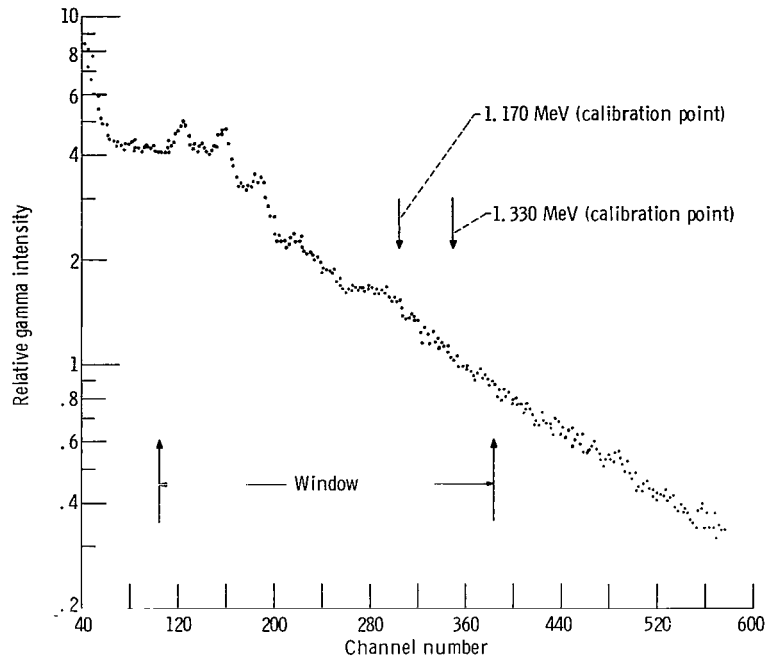


Figure 4. - Gamma-ray singles spectrum from reaction tin-120 ( $\alpha, \gamma$ ).

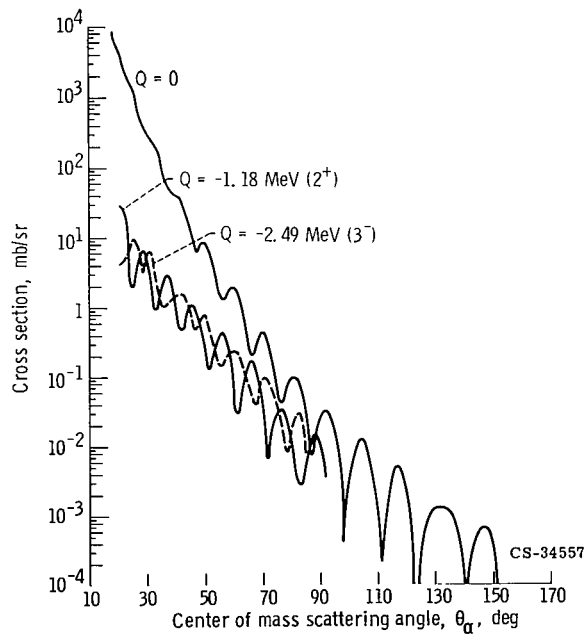


Figure 5. - Tin-120 differential cross section.

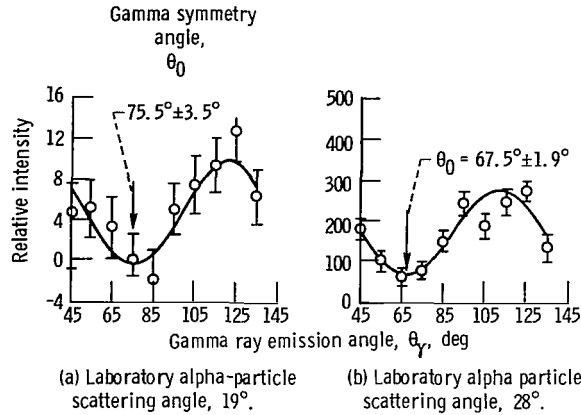


Figure 6. - Typical correlation patterns with least square fits to function  $W(\theta) = A + B \sin^2 2(\theta_\gamma - \theta_0)$ .

The coordinate system used is spherical with the polar axis along the incident beam direction and the azimuthal angle measured from the plane determined by the scattered alpha particle. All gamma rays measured in this work were for the azimuthal angle  $\varphi_\gamma = \pi$ . The measured correlation patterns were fit by the functional form of equation (1) using a linear least squares fitting program, as described in reference 7. Typical experimental patterns and fits are shown in figure 6. The parameters determined from these measurements are the symmetry angle  $\theta_0$  and the A/B ratio. The A/B ratio was corrected for the effects of the finite geometry of the gamma detector using the

TABLE I. - TIN-120 ( $\alpha, \alpha'\gamma$ ) EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS CORRECTED FOR FINITE GEOMETRY

| Alpha center-of-mass scattering angle, $\theta_\alpha$ , cm, deg | Gamma-ray symmetry angle, $\theta_0$ , deg | Ratio of isotropic to anisotropic component, A/B | Alpha center-of-mass scattering angle, $\theta_\alpha$ , cm, deg | Gamma-ray symmetry angle, $\theta_0$ , deg | Ratio of isotropic to anisotropic component, A/B |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 15.49  | 79.23±32.61                                | 0±2.986  | 35.07  | 58.16±4.97                                 | 0.022±0.190                                      |
| 16.53  | 55.10±6.65                                 | 0.098±0.241                                      | 37.12  | 62.03±2.36                                 | 0.070±0.078                                      |
| 17.56  | 61.08±7.17                                 | 0±0.308  | 39.18  | 67.78±2.88                                 | 0.001±0.009                                      |
| 19.26  | 75.50±3.53                                 | 0±0.100  | 41.23  | 67.44±3.64                                 | 0±0.118  |
| 20.65  | 72.65±5.98                                 | 0±0.187  | 43.28  | 68.86±7.90                                 | 0±0.311  |
| 21.68  | 78.17±5.50                                 | 0±0.157  | 45.33  | 44.78±11.41                                | 0.358±0.423                                      |
| 23.75  | 15.96±28.70                                | 3.042±8.799                                      | 47.37  | 66.53±7.15                                 | 0.209±0.266                                      |
| 24.78  | 54.97±6.36                                 | 0.084±0.185                                      | 49.42  | 15.71±65.67                                | 1.158±6.930                                      |
| 25.81  | 60.78±7.03                                 | 0.292±0.248                                      | 51.46  | 51.67±36.57                                | 0±2.754  |
| 26.84  | 63.13±3.14                                 | 0.081±0.115                                      | 53.51  | 60.14±8.60                                 | 0±0.441  |
| 28.90  | 67.46±1.95                                 | 0.219±0.008                                      | 55.55  | 67.76±8.61                                 | 0±0.366  |
| 30.96  | 64.37±3.23                                 | 0.580±0.188                                      | 59.62  | 62.11±6.98                                 | 0±0.515  |
| 33.01  | 67.31±5.17                                 | 0.182±0.207                                      |  |  |  |

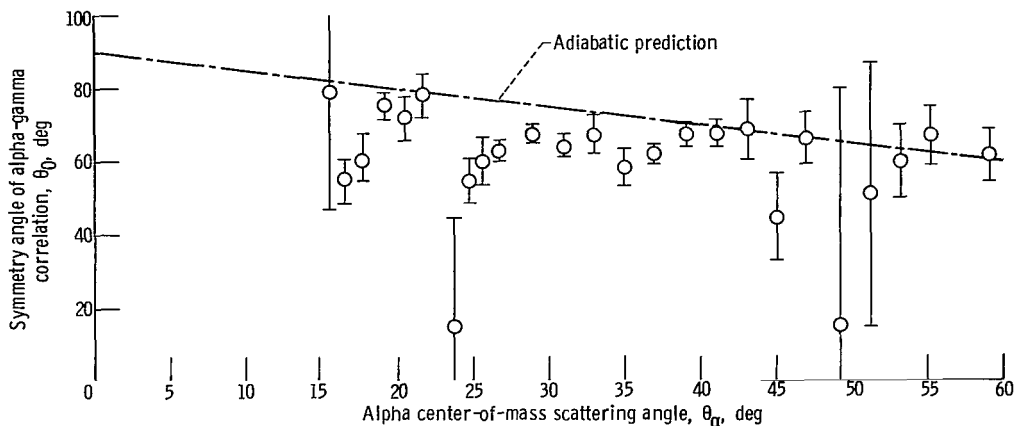


Figure 7. - Gamma-ray symmetry angle for reaction  $^{120}\text{Sn}(\alpha, \alpha'\gamma)$ .

method of Rose (ref. 8). The parameters obtained are listed in table I, and the symmetry angle data are shown graphically in figure 7.

The A/B ratios are not shown graphically since in most cases the errors considerably exceed the value of the ratio. This is due largely to the poor statistics that could be obtained. The effect is more drastic in the A/B ratio than in the symmetry angle since it is the ratio of two measured quantities, each of which suffers independently from the poor statistical accuracy.

## DISCUSSION OF THEORY

Several theories can predict the angular correlation as well as the inelastic scattering cross sections. Two of these theories are the adiabatic approximation (refs. 9 and 10), and the plane-wave Born approximation (refs. 11 and 12). The symmetry angle in the first case follows the adiabatic direction of recoil of the target nucleus. In the plane-wave Born approximation the symmetry angle follows the nonadiabatic recoil direction of the target nucleus. For angles greater than  $20^\circ$ , these two theories predict essentially the same symmetry angle as shown in figure 8.

It is well known, however, from studies of other nuclear reactions that neither the plane-wave Born approximation nor the adiabatic approximation is very realistic. A more satisfactory approach for most (ref. 13) nuclear reactions is the use of the distorted-wave Born approximation (DWBA) in which the incident and exit waves are described asymptotically, not as plane waves, but as waves which have been distorted to fit the elastic scattering from the same nucleus.

DWBA calculations have been particularly successful in describing nuclear reactions involving medium and heavy weight nuclei, where the statistical assumptions of the optical

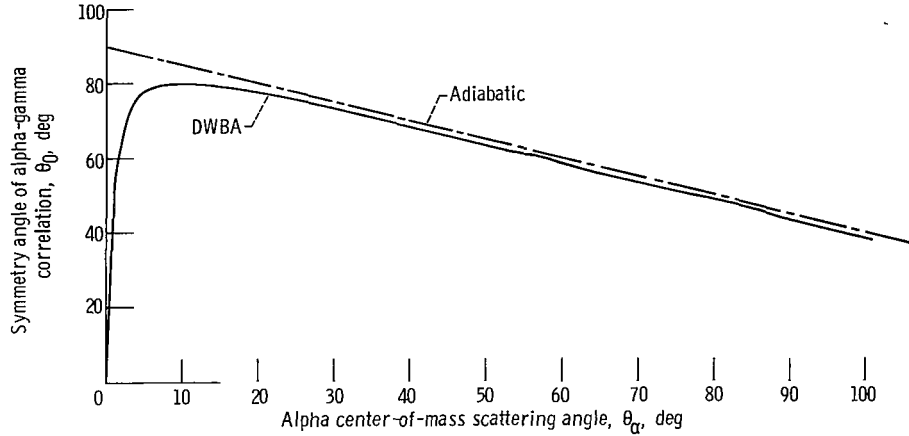


Figure 8. - Symmetry angle as predicted by adiabatic approximation and plane-wave Born approximation.

model are best justified. One encounters a problem, however, in that the optical potential necessary to generate the distorted waves is not uniquely defined by the elastic scattering of strongly absorbed particles such as alphas and deuterons. The reasons for these ambiguities have been discussed (ref. 3). For the alpha energy involved here and for nuclei as heavy as tin, it appears that the ambiguities arise because the scattering is due mainly to reflections at the nuclear surface (ref. 2). Consequently any two nuclear potentials that are the same at large radii will produce the same scattering. In the present work a Woods-Saxon nuclear potential of the form

$$V(r) = -(V + iW) \left[ 1 + \exp\left(\frac{r - r_0 A^{1/3}}{a_0}\right) \right]^{-1} \quad (2)$$

was used. For this particular potential the requirement that the outer edges of the potentials be similar takes the form (ref. 2)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} V \exp\left(\frac{r_0 A^{1/3}}{a_0}\right) &= \text{Constant} \\ W \exp\left(\frac{r_0 A^{1/3}}{a_0}\right) &= \text{Constant} \\ a_0 &= \text{Constant} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (3)$$

In addition to the four parameters indicated in equation (2), it is possible to introduce two others. This is accomplished by allowing the real and imaginary parts of the nuclear potential to have different radii and diffusenesses. As a rule, this does not lead to any great improvement in describing elastic and inelastic scattering of alpha particles, although some improvement has been reported in scattering from  $^{58}\text{Ni}$  (ref. 14). No data of course are available on whether any improvement is obtained by using a six- rather than four-parameter potential to describe angular correlations.

It is fairly well established that DWBA calculations of inelastic scattering cross sections are of little value in determining whether one optical model potential is more valid than another (ref. 2). It was believed then that a comparison of angular correlation data with the predictions of a DWBA calculation would indicate that some potentials are better descriptions of the scattering than others. The basis for this belief is the form of the expression for the correlation pattern in the geometry used here (ref. 15)

$$W(\theta\gamma) = \sum_{\substack{m_l m_l' \\ l m}} F_{Lm_l}^* F_{Lm_l'} \langle 2l m, Lm_l' | Lm_l \rangle \langle L1, L-1 | 2l_0 \rangle Y_{2l}^m(\theta_\gamma, \pi) \quad (4)$$

as compared with that for the cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sum_m \frac{|F_{Lm}|^2}{2L+1} \quad (5)$$

where the  $F_{LM}$ 's are transition amplitudes as defined in reference 16. It is clear that the first expression is sensitive to the phases of the transition amplitudes  $F_{LM}$  while the cross section involves only the squares of their absolute values.

## DISCUSSION OF DATA AND CALCULATIONS

The elastic and inelastic cross sections for scattering of 42-MeV alpha particles from  $^{120}\text{Sn}$  have been discussed in detail in reference 1. The cross sections exhibit a typical diffraction-type structure and obey the Blair phase rule.

The angular correlation data are distinguished by the presence of a rapid reverse rotation of the symmetry angle near an alpha scattering angle of  $24^\circ$  and a possible rapid rotation near  $15^\circ$ . Except for these two regions, it appears that there are no large departures from the adiabatic prediction. This behavior is similar to that observed in

gamma correlation studies on carbon-12, magnesium-24, and nickel-58 (refs. 5, 7, and 17). In the carbon-12 nuclei it appears that the rapid rotations occurred at minima in the inelastic cross section for alpha scattering angles up to  $\theta_{\max}$  and that the symmetry angle remained relatively close to the adiabatic prediction for alpha scattering angles larger than  $\theta_{\max}$ . Since these minima are predicted fairly accurately by Blair's diffraction model (ref. 9), this means in each nucleus  $\theta_{\max}$  should correspond to approximately the same value of the scattering argument used in that theory, namely,  $kR_0 \sin \theta/2$ .

It was believed that magnesium-24 also followed this pattern with its last large rotation at  $45^\circ$ . Recent data have shown that the last large rotation is at approximately  $20^\circ$ , which corresponds to the rapid rotation at smaller alpha scattering angle in the other nuclei studied. The comparison of the rapid rotations in the symmetry angles is shown in table II.

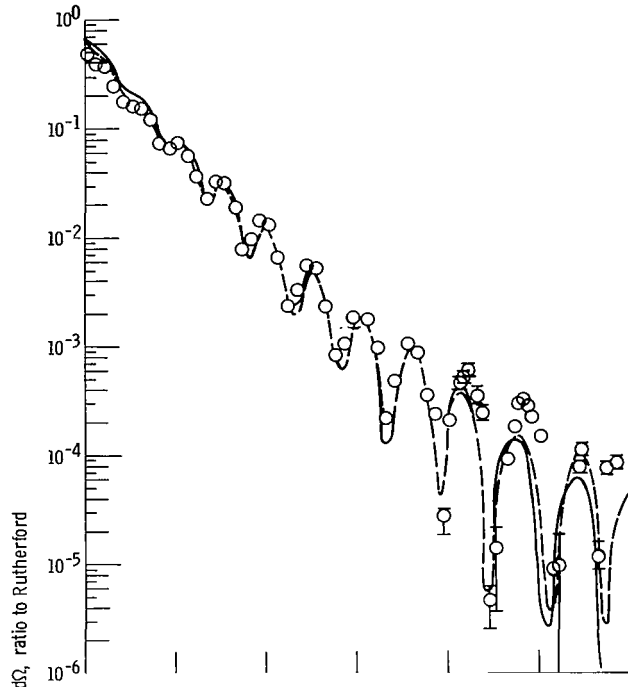
The A/B ratios, measured with the accuracy attainable here contain very little information. At only one angle,  $\theta_\alpha = 30.96^\circ$ , was it possible to say for certain that the correlation pattern had a nonzero isotropic component, in conflict with adiabatic and plane-wave predictions (refs. 11 and 12).

Optical model calculations using the computer program SCAT 4 (ref. 18) give good agreement with the elastic cross-section data, however, ambiguities of the type discussed earlier were present. Eight equally good four-parameter potentials are listed in table II, and the results of calculations with three of these are shown in figure 9.

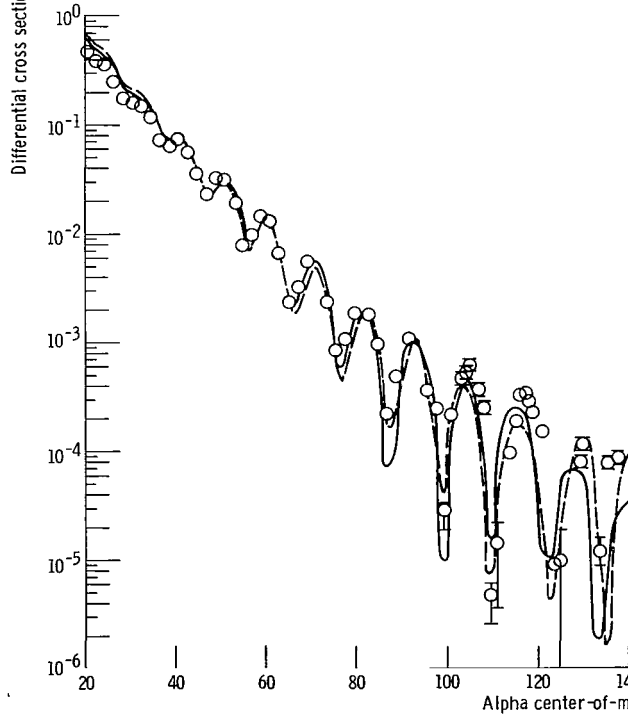
In figure 10 calculated inelastic cross sections are compared with the experimental values. The potentials used are the three optical model potentials whose elastic fits are shown in figure 9. The inelastic calculations were done using the direct-reaction calculation (DRC) program of Gibbs et al. (ref. 16). The agreement with the data is good over the whole range of optical model potentials, demonstrating again that the inelastic cross sections in no way aid in removing optical model ambiguities.

TABLE II. - COMPARISON OF ROTATIONS IN SYMMETRY ANGLE DATA

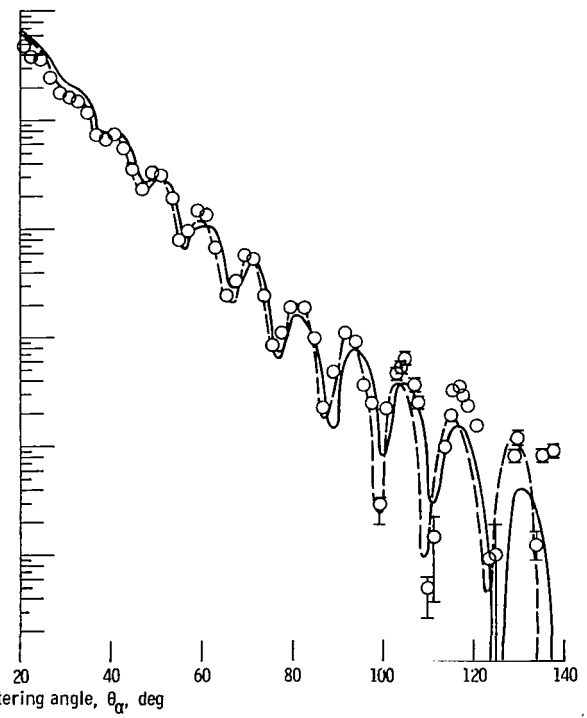
| Nucleus      | Last Rotation<br>in symmetry<br>angle,<br>deg | Scattering<br>angle<br>argument,<br>$kR_0 \sin \theta/2$ | Second rotation<br>in symmetry<br>angle,<br>deg | Scattering<br>angle<br>argument,<br>$kR_0 \sin \theta/2$ |
|--------------|---|--|---|--|
| Carbon-12    | 47  | 0.914 $kR_0$   | 27  | 0.534 $kR_0$   |
| Magnesium-24 | 20  | 0.501 $kR_0$   | --  | -----  |
| Nickel-58    | 28  | 0.937 $kR_0$   | 20  | 0.670 $kR_0$   |
| Tin-120      | 24  | 1.01 $kR_0$  | 16  | 0.672 $kR_0$   |



(a) Strength of real part nuclear optical potential, 43 MeV.



(b) Strength of real part of nuclear optical potential, 103 MeV.



(c) Strength of real part of nuclear optical potential, 316 MeV.

Figure 9. - Elastic angular distribution of alpha particles scattered from tin-120.

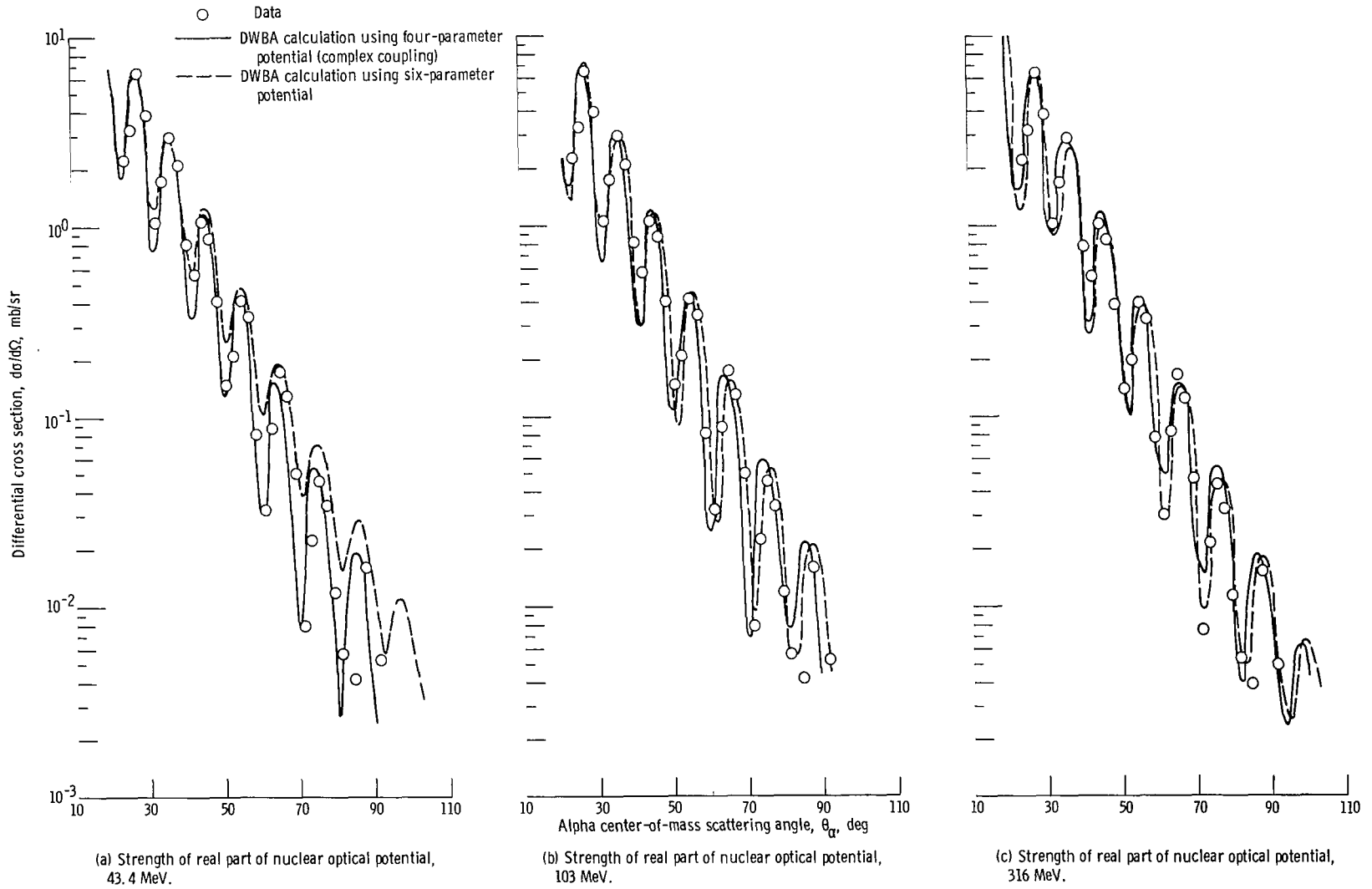
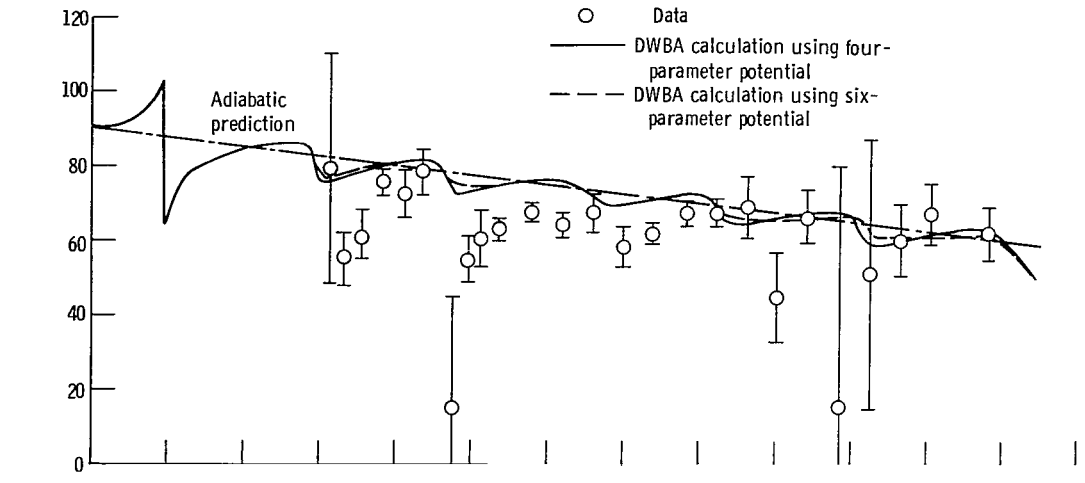


Figure 10. - Differential cross sections for inelastic scattering of 42-MeV alpha particles from tin-120.

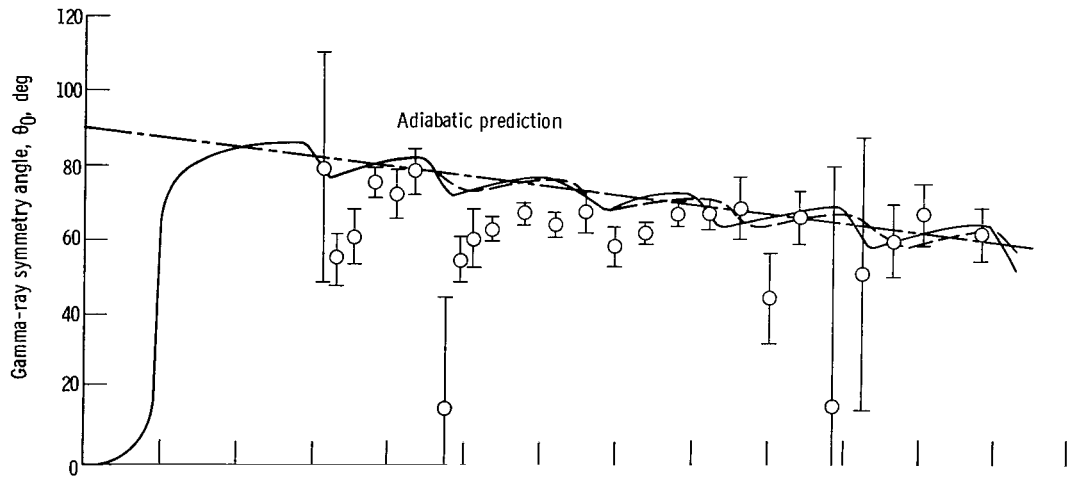


In figure 11 the calculated symmetry angles are compared with the experimental data. The transition amplitudes are calculated by the DRC program and the symmetry angle is calculated using equation (4). All eight of the potentials predict nearly identical correlation patterns for alpha scattering angles larger than  $10^\circ$ . Three of the potentials ( $V = 87.7, 103,$  and  $117$  MeV) predict a reverse rotation of the symmetry angle near  $\theta_\alpha = 5^\circ$  while the others predict a rapid forward rotation in that region. Beyond  $10^\circ$  all the potentials tested predict that the symmetry angle should stay relatively close to the adiabatic or plane-wave prediction, shown as the solid straight line in figure 7. There are small excursions with the calculation crossing the adiabatic line with a small positive slope at angles that correspond to maxima in the inelastic distribution and with a large negative slope at angles that correspond to minima in the inelastic cross section. Unfortunately none of the potentials could be said to yield good fits since none of them were able to predict the rapid rotation, which is seen experimentally near  $24^\circ$ , nor the one which it seems likely occurs at  $16^\circ$ .

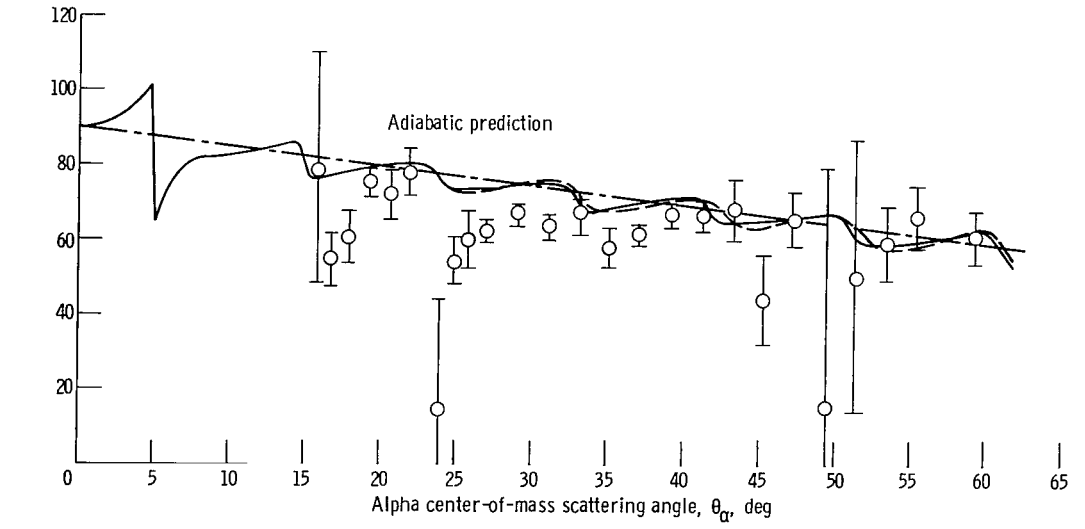
As suggested in the section DISCUSSION OF THEORY, further attempts to fit the correlation data were made, using a six- rather than four-parameter optical model. Six-parameter potentials were found by using the four-parameter potentials listed in table III as starting points and allowing SCAT 4 to optimize all six parameters. The potentials which resulted from this procedure are listed with the four-parameter starting potentials in table III. In every case the optimum imaginary radius was larger than the real radius while the best value for the imaginary diffuseness was smaller than that for the real diffuseness. These parameters were used as input for DWBA calculation using a slight modification of the DRC program, in which a six-parameter potential is used in the entrance and exit channels, and the form factor which produces the inelastic scattering is allowed to be complex and is generated by deforming both the real and imaginary parts of the optical potential. In the present case it seems clear that no great improvement should be expected in the fits to the cross sections; however, there is room for considerable improvement in the fits to the correlation data. The results obtained using three of the six-parameter potentials are shown as the dashed lines in figures 9 to 11. It is clear that there has been a slight improvement in the inelastic fits. In particular, at large angles the peaks in the cross sections have been shifted to slightly larger angles, resulting in a somewhat better fit. The correlation patterns, however, are essentially identical in every case to those obtained using a four-parameter potential to describe the scattering.



(a) Strength of real part of nuclear optical potential, 43 MeV.



(b) Strength of real part of nuclear optical potential, 103 MeV.



(c) Strength of real part of nuclear optical potential, 316 MeV.

Figure 11. - Gamma-ray symmetry angles for the reaction tin-120 ( $\alpha, \alpha'\gamma$ ).

TABLE III. - TIN-120 OPTICAL MODEL SEARCHES

| Real strength,<br>V,<br>MeV | Radius of real<br>potential,<br>$r_0$ ,<br>fm | Diffuseness of<br>real potential,<br>$a_0$ ,<br>fm | Imaginary<br>strength,<br>W,<br>MeV | Radius of<br>imaginary<br>potential,<br>$r_i$ ,<br>fm | Diffuseness of<br>imaginary<br>potential,<br>$a_i$ ,<br>fm | Goodness of<br>parameter fit,<br>$\chi^2/N - n_i$ | Number of<br>search<br>parameters,<br>$n_i$ |
|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| 43.40                       | 1.50  | 0.710  | 22.50                               | ----  | -----  | 7.28  | 4   |
| 42.84                       | 1.47  | .724   | 22.80                               | 1.52  | 0.605  | 5.04  | 6   |
| 58.00                       | 1.46  | 0.712  | 28.00                               | ----  | -----  | 7.28  | 4   |
| 59.34                       | 1.42  | .716   | 28.38                               | 1.48  | 0.609  | 5.15  | 6   |
| 52.00                       | 1.48  | 0.703  | 24.90                               | ----  | -----  | 7.28  | 4   |
| 51.67                       | 1.44  | .722   | 25.06                               | 1.50  | 0.608  | 5.31  | 6   |
| 66.10                       | 1.44  | 0.710  | 31.10                               | ----  | -----  | 7.28  | 4   |
| 66.38                       | 1.41  | .716   | 31.19                               | 1.46  | 0.608  | 5.06  | 6   |
| 87.70                       | 1.40  | 0.708  | 38.50                               | ----  | -----  | 7.28  | 4   |
| 87.68                       | 1.37  | .714   | 38.60                               | 1.43  | 0.615  | 5.12  | 6   |
| 103.00                      | 1.38  | 0.705  | 42.60                               | ----  | -----  | 7.28  | 4   |
| 103.14                      | 1.34  | .716   | 42.83                               | 1.41  | 0.619  | 5.10  | 6   |
| 117.00                      | 1.36  | 0.707  | 48.00                               | ----  | -----  | 7.56  | 4   |
| 116.93                      | 1.32  | .716   | 48.03                               | 1.40  | 0.615  | 5.10  | 6   |
| 316.00                      | 1.19  | 0.710  | 145.00                              | ----  | -----  | 29.20   | 4   |
| 316.28                      | 1.18  | .711   | 145.09                              | 1.26  | 0.609  | 5.10  | 6   |

## CONCLUSIONS

The study of the inelastic scattering of alpha particles and the angular correlation between the inelastically scattered alpha particle and the de-excitation gamma ray has been based on the distorted-wave Born approximation theory of inelastic scattering. The nucleus has been treated by using the macroscopic collective model.

In the mass region of tin-120 the optical model is valid and the predicted fits to the elastic scattering data are good. The fits to the data exhibit the usual optical model ambiguities, and these result from the surface reflection type as opposed to volume reflection. The DWBA calculations of the inelastic alpha-particle scattering are of no help in removing these ambiguities. The greater sensitivity of the angular correlation in a DWBA calculation to the optical model parameters also seems to be of no help in removing these ambiguities. The DWBA calculations of the symmetry angles are all similar over a wide range of optical model parameters, and none reproduced the rotations found in the experimental data. Three of the potentials predict a different behavior of the sym-

metry angle at approximately an alpha scattering angle of  $6^\circ$ , but it is impossible to obtain experiment data at those alpha scattering angles.

The rotations measured in the symmetry angle show a momentum dependence as do the cross sections. The rotations in the symmetry angle scale approximately as  $kr_0 \sin \theta/2$ . So, if structure exists in the symmetry angle data, it will be compressed to forward angles where it is difficult to make an experimental measurement.

Lewis Research Center,  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration,  
Cleveland, Ohio, October 1, 1969,  
129-02.

## REFERENCES

1. Baron, Norton; Leonard, Regis F.; Need, John L.; and Stewart, William M.: Elastic and Inelastic Scattering of 40-MeV Alpha Particles From Even Tin Isotopes. NASA TN D-3067, 1965.
2. Leonard, Regis F.; Stewart, William M.; and Baron, Norton: Elastic and Inelastic Scattering of 42-MeV Alpha Particles From Even Tellurium Isotopes. NASA TN D-3991, 1967.
3. Drisko, R. M.; Satchler, G. R.; and Bassel, R. H.: Ambiguities in the Optical Potential for Strongly Absorbed Projectiles. Phys. Letters, vol. 5, no. 5, Aug. 1, 1963, pp. 347-350.
4. Baron, Norton; and Kaminski, Gerald A.: Manufacture of Lithium-Drifted Silicon Surface-Barrier Semiconductor Counters. NASA TN D-3554, 1966.
5. Stewart, William M.; Baron, Norton; Braley, Richard C.; and Leonard, Regis F.: Alpha-Gamma Angular Correlations in the Reaction Carbon 12( $\alpha, \alpha'\gamma$ )<sub>4.433 MeV</sub>. NASA TN D-5568, 1969.
6. Banerjee, Manoj K.; and Levinson, Carl A.: Direct Interaction Theory of Inelastic Scattering. Part II. Angular Correlation of Gamma Rays Following Inelastic Scattering. Ann. Phys. (N. Y.), vol. 2, no. 5, Nov. 1957, pp. 499-524.
7. Leonard, Regis F.; Stewart, William M.; Baron, Norton; and Braley, Richard C.: Gamma Ray Angular Correlations Following Inelastic Scattering of 42-MeV Alpha Particles from Magnesium 24. NASA TN D-4683, 1968.
8. Rose, M. E.: The Analysis of Angular Correlation and Angular Distribution Data. Phys. Rev., vol. 91, no. 3, Aug. 1, 1953, pp. 610-615.

9. Blair, John S.: Inelastic Diffraction Scattering. *Phys. Rev.*, vol. 115, no. 4, Aug. 15, 1959, pp. 928-938.
10. Blair, J. S.; and Wilets, L.: Gamma-Ray Correlation Function in the Adiabatic Approximation. *Phys. Rev.*, vol. 121, no. 5, Mar. 1, 1961, pp. 1493-1499.
11. Austern, N.; Butler, S. T.; and McManus, H.: Angular Distributions from (n, p) Nuclear Reactions. *Phys. Rev.*, vol. 92, no. 2, Oct. 15, 1953, pp. 350-354.
12. Satchler, G. R.: Gamma Radiation Following the Surface Scattering of Nucleons. *Proc. Phys. Soc.*, vol. A68, pt. 11, Nov. 1955, pp. 1037-1040.
13. Tobocman, W.: Theory of the (d, p) Reaction. *Phys. Rev.*, vol. 94, no. 6, June 15, 1954, pp. 1655-1663.
14. Broek, H. W.; Yntema, J. L.; Buck, B.; and Satchler, G. R.: Wide-Angle Scattering of 43 MeV Alpha Particles by  $^{58}\text{Ni}$ . *Nucl. Phys.*, vol. 64, no. 2, 1965, pp. 259-272.
15. Tobocman, W.: Theory of Direct Nuclear Reactions. Oxford Univ. Press, 1961.
16. Gibbs, W. R.; et al.: Direct Reaction Calculation. NASA TN D-2170, 1964.
17. Baron, Norton; Leonard, Regis F.; and Stewart, William M.: Alpha-Gamma Angular Correlations in the Reaction Nickel 58 ( $\alpha, \alpha'\gamma_1$ , 452 MeV). NASA TN D-5585, 1969.
18. Melkanoff, Michel A.; Nodvik, John S.; Saxon, David S.; and Cantor, David G.: A FORTRAN Program for Elastic Scattering Analyses With the Nuclear Optical Model. Univ. of California Press, 1961.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND  
SPACE ADMINISTRATION

1958 JUN 10 10 11 AM '58  
1958 JUN 10 10 11 AM '58  
1958 JUN 10 10 11 AM '58

POSTMASTER: If Undeliverable (Section 158  
Postal Manual) Do Not Return

*"The aeronautical and space activities of the United States shall be conducted so as to contribute . . . to the expansion of human knowledge of phenomena in the atmosphere and space. The Administration shall provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof."*

— NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ACT OF 1958

## NASA SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

**TECHNICAL REPORTS:** Scientific and technical information considered important, complete, and a lasting contribution to existing knowledge.

**TECHNICAL NOTES:** Information less broad in scope but nevertheless of importance as a contribution to existing knowledge.

**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUMS:** Information receiving limited distribution because of preliminary data, security classification, or other reasons.

**CONTRACTOR REPORTS:** Scientific and technical information generated under a NASA contract or grant and considered an important contribution to existing knowledge.

**TECHNICAL TRANSLATIONS:** Information published in a foreign language considered to merit NASA distribution in English.

**SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS:** Information derived from or of value to NASA activities. Publications include conference proceedings, monographs, data compilations, handbooks, sourcebooks, and special bibliographies.

**TECHNOLOGY UTILIZATION PUBLICATIONS:** Information on technology used by NASA that may be of particular interest in commercial and other non-aerospace applications. Publications include Tech Briefs, Technology Utilization Reports and Notes, and Technology Surveys.

*Details on the availability of these publications may be obtained from:*

**SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION DIVISION  
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
Washington, D.C. 20546**