

Association of single ultracold molecules in optical tweezers

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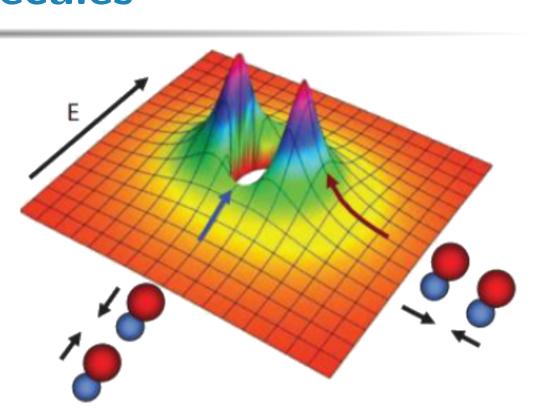
Harvard-MIT Center for Ultracold Atoms

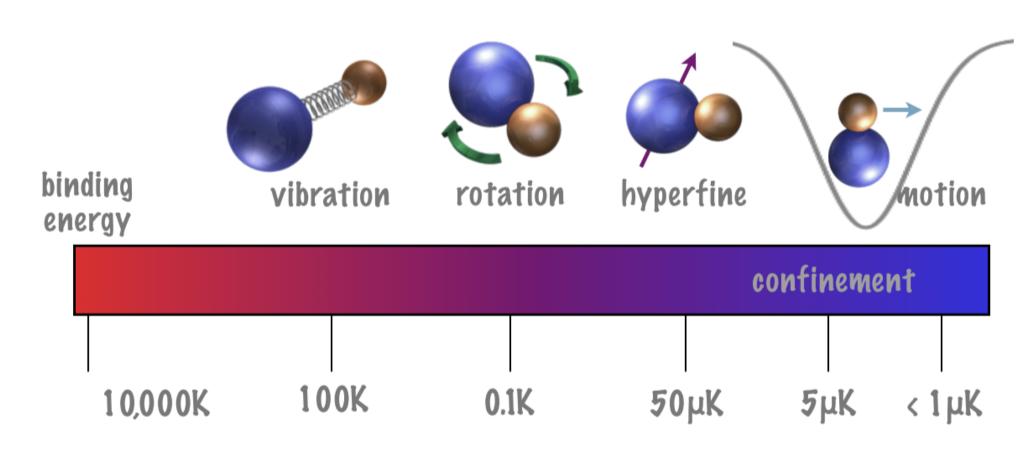
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Ultracold Molecules

- NaCs has a large permanent electric dipole moment (4.6 Debye)
- Strong anisotropic dipole-dipole interactions
- Coupled internal degrees of freedom can be used to tune interactions and store information



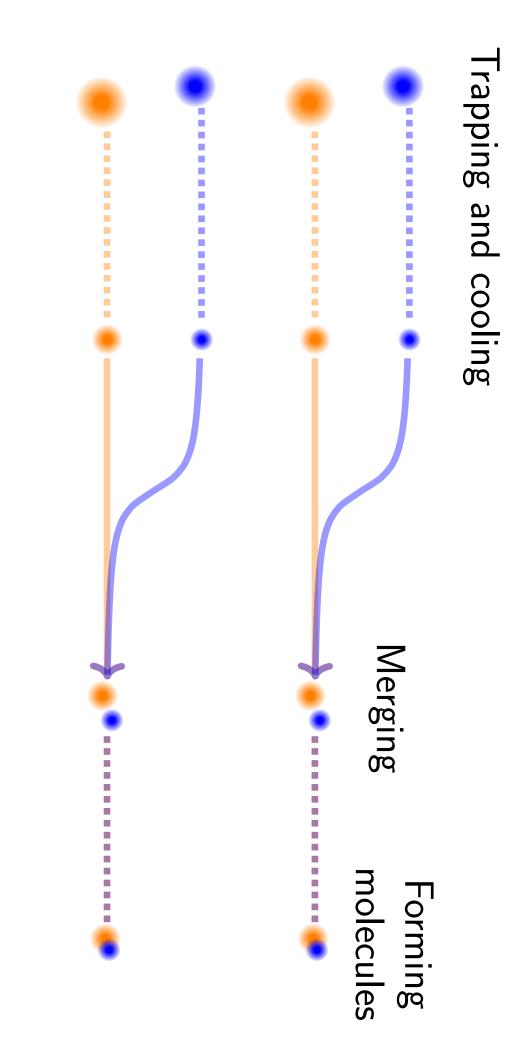


Our Approach

- Assemble and trap individual molecules in optical tweezers from laser-cooled atoms
- Raman transition from atoms to weakly-bound molecules
- STIRAP to ground state molecules

Advantages

- Fast cycle time (<1s), small vacuum chamber
- Dynamically configurable trapping geometry
- All optical cooling and state-manipulation



Acknowledgements



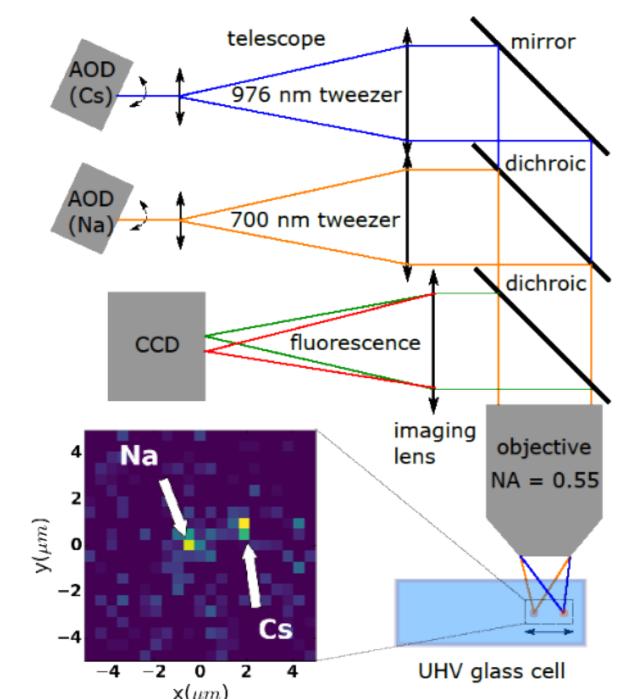


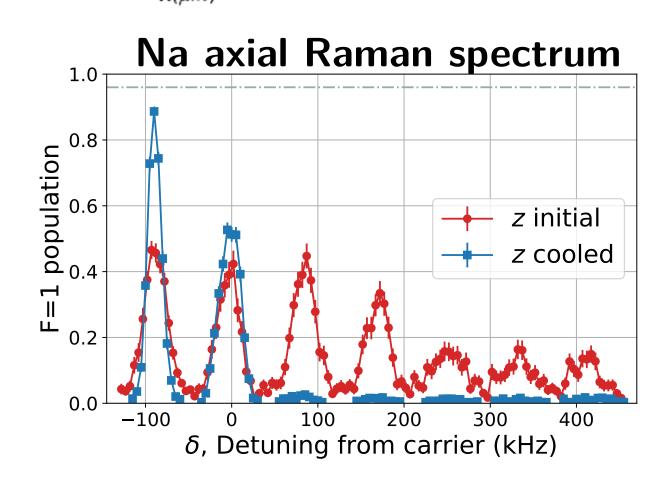


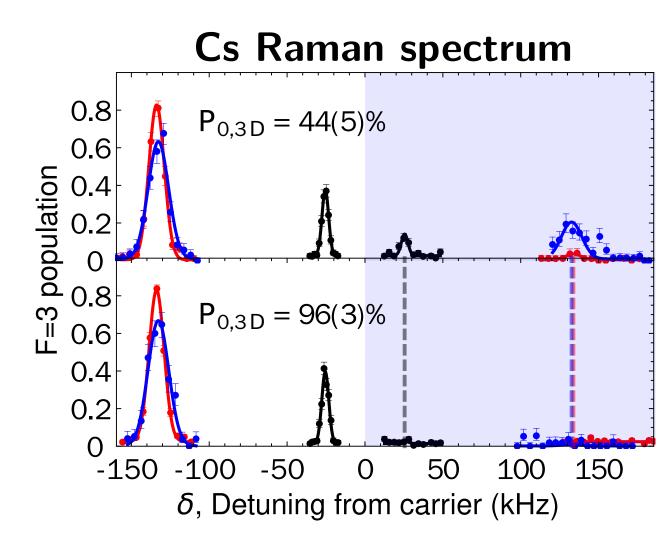
Trapping and Cooling of Atoms

Merging Tweezers

Laser-cooled and trapped single Cs and Na atoms < 100 uK in separate rearrangeable optical tweezers.







Single atom
histogram

100
200
200
300
400

Hutzler, Liu, Yu, Ni, New J. Phys 19, 023007 (2017)

L. Liu, Zhang, Yu, Hutzler, Hood, Liu, Rosenband, Ni, arXiv:1701.03121 (2017)

Cooled into motional ground states in the tweezers with Raman sideband cooling. Cooling fidelities are 96% for Cesium and 94% for Sodium.

Photoassociation

Coherent molecule formation (Preliminary)