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Rubidium Spectroscopy with an External Cavity Diode Laser¹ CHARITY BURGESS, R. SETH SMITH, Francis Marion University — A homebuilt external cavity diode laser (ECDL) was used to provide a very narrow range of laser wavelengths near 780 nm in order to study the structure of rubidium (Rb). The absorption spectrum of Rb was measured. This spectrum was subject to Dopplerbroadening of the spectral lines. A technique known as Saturated Absorption Spectroscopy was employed to eliminate the effects of Doppler-broadening and to obtain a high resolution spectrum for Rubidium. The setup, operation, and performance of this system will be described.

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Charity Burgess Francis Marion University

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