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Spin-exchange collision cooling in an ultracold ⁸⁵Rb/⁸⁷Rb Mixture¹ MATHEW HAMILTON, REBEKAH FERRIER, JACOB ROBERTS, Colorado State University — We have confined ultracold ⁸⁵Rb and ⁸⁷Rb simultaneously in an optical trap. Through optical pumping, spin-exchange collisions between ⁸⁵Rb and ⁸⁷Rb in a magnetic field can be made to be endothermic, transferring kinetic energy to Zeeman energy. Subsequent optical pumping removes the Zeeman energy from the gas, cooling it without requiring atom loss. We describe our implementation of this cooling scheme² and describe our experimental observations and characterizations of this cooling. We also discuss the advantages of using two different types of atoms in the cooling.

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²G. Ferrari, European Physical Journal D 13, 67-70 (2001).

Jacob Roberts Colorado State University

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