

Abstract Submitted  
for the DAMOP12 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Molecule-molecule hyperfine Feshbach resonances** ALISDAIR WALLIS, ROMAN KREMS, University of British Columbia — Magnetic Feshbach scattering resonances play a central role in experimental research of atomic gases at ultracold temperatures. A major thrust of current research is to create an ultracold gas of diatomic alkali-metal molecules in the ground rovibrational state of the ground electronic  $^1\Sigma$  state. Can ultracold  $^1\Sigma$  molecules be controlled by means of magnetic Feshbach resonances? Unlike alkali metal atoms,  $^1\Sigma$  diatomic molecules have no unpaired electrons. The response of  $^1\Sigma$  molecules to an external magnetic field is determined entirely by the spin structure of the atomic nuclei. We present the first calculations of molecule-molecule collisions for  $^1\Sigma$  molecules in a magnetic field. In particular, we calculate the rates of hyperfine relaxation in molecule - molecule collisions and explore the possibility of tuning magnetic Feshbach resonances in an ultracold gas of  $^{87}\text{Rb}^{133}\text{Cs}(X^1\Sigma^+)$  molecules.

Alisdair Wallis  
University of British Columbia

Date submitted: 26 Jan 2012

Electronic form version 1.4