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Nonlinear optics in atomic ytterbium¹ TIAN LI, JONATHAN D. WEINSTEIN, University of Nevada — We have performed degenerate four-wave mixing experiments with cryogenically-cooled atomic ytterbium. We use buffer-gas cooling to prepare high optical density samples at a temperature of 5 K, cold enough to resolve the different isotopes and hyperfine transitions. We observe four-wave mixing. With cross-polarized pump and probe beams, we observe a conjugate beam only when the laser is closely detuned from the ${}^1S_0(F=1/2) \rightarrow {}^1P_1(F=1/2)$ transition of the 171 Yb (I=1/2) isotope. Progress towards the generation of squeezed light will be discussed.

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