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Molecular Ion Spectroscopy¹ KUANG CHEN, STEVEN SCHOWAL-TER, WADE RELLERGERT, SCOTT SULLIVAN, ERIC HUDSON, UCLA — We discuss our efforts to perform high-resolution spectroscopy of the BaCl⁺ ion, an exciting candidate for ultracold molecular ion studies. This work details our search for a predicted predissociation channel between the first-excited $B^1\Sigma$ and $A^1\Pi$ states. It is expected that the rovibrational resolution afforded by predissociation spectroscopy will allow us to efficiently measure molecular-ion rovibrational temperatures. This is a crucial step in confirming our method to produce ultracold molecular ions via sympathetic collisions with a ⁴⁰Ca MOT. To observe the predissociation of trapped BaCl⁺, we detect slight increases in fragment Ba⁺ with a novel time-of-flight device using radial extraction from a linear quadrupole trap.

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