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 $^{138}$ Ba<sup>+</sup> Ion-Photon Entanglement using Ultrafast Pulses CAR-OLYN AUCHTER, TOM NOEL, BORIS BLINOV, University of Washington — We present preliminary evidence of entanglement between the ground state of a trapped  $^{138}$ Ba<sup>+</sup> ion and the polarization state of the photons it spontaneously emits. The spontaneously emitted photons result from weak excitation by short (~40 ns) pulses of resonant CW laser light of the ions initially prepared in a single Zeeman ground state. This protocol is facilitated by the presence near the trap of an integrated electrode that allows ground state spin flips to be driven in under a microsecond. We also present our work toward improved entanglement fidelity by employing ultrafast pulses from a mode-locked Ti:Sapphire laser for ion excitation, with the ultimate goal of doing remote entanglement of barium ions in distant traps. Barium is a particularly good candidate for such research due to the relatively long wavelength of the transitions involved, which makes it suitable for fiber optic transmission over long distances.

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