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Bose-Einstein

condensation of 86 Sr D.S. BARKER, B.J. RESCHOVSKY, N.C. PISENTI, G.K. CAMPBELL, JQI, University of Maryland and NIST, College Park, MD 20742 — We demonstrate a Bose-Einstein condensate of the alkaline-earth atom 86 Sr. We use a magneto-optical trap to load atoms into a pancake-shaped optical dipole trap. The large volume of the dipole trap allows forced evaporation to proceed despite the large scattering length ($\sim 800~a_0$) of 86 Sr. Optical Feshbach resonances will allow us to tune the scattering length during future experiments.

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