Collisional studies of an ultracold mixture of lithium and excited state ytterbium atoms\textsuperscript{1} WILLIAM DOWD, RICHARD ROY, RAJENDRA SHRESTHA, SUBHADEEP GUPTA, University of Washington — Ultracold mixtures of alkali and alkaline-earth systems are one promising avenue to achieve ultracold paramagnetic ground state molecules. However, alkaline-earth atoms are insensitive to magnetic fields in their ground state, rendering Feshbach molecule creation techniques extraordinarily difficult. By using a long-lived and magnetic excited state of the alkaline-earth, this deficiency may be overcome. We perform collisional studies of alkali lithium and the metastable $^3P_2$ excited state of alkaline-earth-like ytterbium in the presence of a controllable background magnetic field. We present measurements of the field dependent inter and intra-species inelastic interactions. We assess the potential for a magnetic Feshbach resonance to be used in LiYb dimer creation.

\textsuperscript{1}We acknowledge funding from the NSF, AFOSR, ARO-MURI.