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Raman sideband cooling of 138 Ba⁺ on a Zeeman transition CHRISTOPHER SECK, MARK KOKISH, Northwestern University, MATTHEW DIETRICH, Northwestern University/Argonne National Laboratory, BRIAN ODOM, Northwestern University — Here, we report motional ground state preparation of a single 138 Ba⁺ ion using Raman sideband cooling with the two $S_{1/2}$ Zeeman sublevels. Owing to the small Zeeman splitting, Raman sideband cooling of 138 Ba⁺ requires only two AOMs and the Doppler cooling lasers. Additionally, we demonstrate coherent operations using a second, far-off-resonant laser driving Raman π -pulses between the two Zeeman sublevels to characterize our mean motional occupation number, Raman sideband cooling frequency resonance, Raman sideband cooling rate, and ion trap motional heating rate. Motional ground state cooling and molecular internal state preparation, both realized in our group², are important elements for molecular quantum logic spectroscopy (mQLS). We are now working towards motional ground state preparation of a 138 Ba⁺ and AlH⁺ ion pair for mQLS.

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²C.-Y. Lien, C. M. Seck, Y.-W. Lin, J. H. V. Nguyen, D. A. Tabor, and B. C. Odom, *Nature Communications* 5, 4783 (2014)

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