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Towards a narrow-line MOT of YO¹ YEWEI WU, SHIQIAN DING, IAN FINNERAN, ALEJANDRA COLLOPY², JUN YE, University of Colorado, Boulder — We report a magneto-optical trap (MOT) of Yttrium monoxide (YO) molecules and our recent progress towards a second-stage narrow-line MOT. YO molecules are produced from a cryogenic buffer gas cell, slowed by a counterpropagating laser beam and then loaded into the RF MOT. Currently, the MOT holds ~1.5x10⁴ molecules at a temperature of 4.1(5) mK. Recently we performed high resolution spectroscopy for the narrow transition (~6 kHz) in YO suitable for further cooling to the microkelvin regime. At these temperatures, molecules will be ready to be loaded into magnetic or optical dipole traps for studies of ultracold chemistry and quantum many-body physics.

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