

Abstract Submitted  
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**Controlling** **strong-**  
**field isomerization of acetylene ions**<sup>1</sup> BETHANY JOCHIM, BEN BERRY,  
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Department of Physics, Augustana University, Sioux Falls, SD 57197 USA — The  
topic of hydrogen migration in hydrocarbons has garnered considerable attention  
in recent years in the strong-field community and beyond. Employing coincidence  
3D momentum imaging, we study the intense ultrafast laser-induced isomerization  
and dissociation dynamics of keV ion beams of acetylene, one of the simplest hydro-  
carbons. Targets of interest include  $C_2H_2^-$ ,  $C_2H_2^+$ , and  $C_2H_2^{2+}$ , for which we focus  
on two-body acetylene ( $CH^{q_1}+CH^{q_2}$ ) and vinylidene ( $C^{q_1}+CH_2^{q_2}$ ) breakup. Laser  
parameters such as intensity, wavelength, pulse duration, etc., that serve as control  
knobs for manipulating outcomes such as the kinetic energy release (KER), angular  
distributions, and branching ratios will be discussed. Moreover, the dependence of  
these outcomes on the initial ion species will be explored.

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