







lifetime of trapped molecules

















III. Photoassociation (just a short detour)

review: Jones et al., RMP 78, 0483 (2006)



III. Photoassociation (just a short detour) PA molecular spectroscopy: widely used method, many papers !

molecule formation in MOTs (end 90's, early 00's) Cs₂ Pillet et al., Rb₂ Gabannini et al., K₂ Stwalley/Gould et al., ...

optically trapped molecules: Knize et al. (1998) molecules in BEC: Heinzen et al. (1999)

creation of heteronuclear ground state molecules

KRb Stwalley et al. (2000) RbCs DeMille et al. (2005) LiCs Weidemüller et al. (2008) but quite far from being a quantum gas





loss resonance from inelastic molecule collisions in dense BEC ultracold.at





maximum molecular fraction

theoretical modelling of our Rb experiments based on parameters extracted from dark-resonance measurements

































V. Outlook: current trends and new possibilities

attainment of quantum degeneracy (in KRb ?)

bi-alkali molecules with large dipole moments (LiCs, ...) stronger long-range interaction and better suppression of reactive losses

chemically stable bi-alkali molecules (RbCs, NaK, ...)

BEC of homo- and heteronuclear molecules (Cs₂, RbCs, ...)

molecules of alkali and earth-alkali-like atoms (LiYb, RbSr,) both electric and magnetic dipole moment

more exotic molecules (LiCr, LiEr, YbF,) we'll see.... let's dream!



towards a chemically stable, strongly dipolar BEC



























