



The HARPS polarimeter

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We recently commissioned the polarimetric upgrade of the HARPS spectrograph at ESO's 3.6-m telescope at La Silla, Chile. The HARPS polarimeter is capable of full Stokes spectropolarimetry with large sensitivity and accuracy, taking advantage of the large spectral resolution and stability of HARPS. In this paper we present the instrument design and its polarimetric performance. The first HARSPol observations show that it can attain a polarimetric sensitivity of $\sim 10^{-5}$ (after addition of many lines) and that no significant instrumental polarization effects are present.

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