

## **First Light and Science with the Near-Infrared Planet Searcher (NIRPS)**

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NIRPS is a near-infrared, fiber-fed, high-resolution precision radial velocity spectrograph currently under commissioning and scheduled for science operation in March 2023 on the 3.6-m La Silla telescope. Operated simultaneously with HARPS and fed by an adaptive optics system, NIRPS provides simultaneous spectral coverage of the Y, J and H bands (0.97 to 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$ ) at a spectral resolution of  $\sim 80\text{k}$  and  $\sim 100\text{k}$  for the high-efficiency and high-accuracy mode, respectively. NIRPS features a very stable spectrograph optimized to achieve a radial velocity accuracy of  $\sim 1$  m/s on low-mass stars. NIRPS consortium will be allocated 725 nights of Guaranteed Time Observations (GTO) in the next 5 years (40% of the telescope time) to conduct numerous science programs focused on: 1) blind searches of small habitable zone planets around low-mass stars, 2) mass (density) measurements of new transiting systems and 3) atmospheric characterization of exoplanets through transit spectroscopy. We will present the on-sky performance of the instrument and highlight the NIRPS GTO programs.