Spectro
Polarimeter
Infrared
Pyrenean

Calibration Unit

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The calibration unit is used to calibrate and characterize the SPIP spectrograph response in order to secure the highest possible RV (Radial Velocity) stability over the short term (one night) and the long term (several years). To ensure this objective, the calibration unit provides different light sources to perform the following calibrations: 1) location, geometry of the spectral orders, flat field (pixel response) and blaze profile response (continuum source); 2) determination of wavelength solution (hollow cathods); 3) radial velocity drift follow-up (Fabry-Perot etalon). A “cold source” limits thermal pollution on the spectra when no light is used.

The calibration unit feeds the spectrograph with light with two fibers: directly with the Reference fiber (providing simultaneous drift follow-up), and with the Cassegrain fiber through the Cassegrain unit of the Bernard Lyot telescope (TBL) and the science fibers (using same path as stellar signal).