

Strengths	Weakness
This is a very well-written and focused proposal to perform spectroscopic observations with HARPS-N of 4-5 Neptune-Saturn size, long-period exoplanet candidates identified in the HATSouth survey. The goal is to obtain high precision radial velocity measurements to infer the planet masses. So far the largest majority of studied exoplanets are giant planets with short orbital periods, while it is fundamental to increase the number of studied exoplanets on sufficiently wide orbits to not be affected by extreme stellar irradiation. The observing strategy and the analysis plan look reasonable. The team is highly expert on the topic.	Mass values are reported in the proposal for the candidate targets, but a prediction for the expected increase in mass accuracy with the proposed observations was not given.
The proposal is well written, and the scientific aims are clearly defined. The team has successfully used many astronomical facilities to carry out projects of this kind. HARPS-N is well-suited for this project.	The proposal combines two different, albeit connected, science goals (investigation of low-mass planets, investigation of planets with periods longer than 10 days) leading to a substantial request of service mode time. TESS data cannot yet be exploited to improve the sample. The team should have considered both to split the proposal into two different projects, and to wait for TESS data to be available to refine the candidate selection. The "status of the project" section has apparently been used in an inappropriate way to provide general information on the HATSouth project.
The proposal aims at confirming and characterizing exoplanets discovered by HATSouth, in particular Neptune and Saturn-size targets with relatively long periods. The project will explore the characteristics of exoplanets over a mass and orbital period range not much explored with the transiting technique (which has been overall the most successful for detecting exoplanets). The team is conducting the HATSouth survey that has identified 2000 transiting planet candidates, 65 confirmed and well characterized. They have developed routines for radial velocity and atmospheric parameter measurements.	The proposal could have given a more detailed description of the kind of measurements that will be performed and on the properties to be constrained beside the mass (e.g. what about the atmospheric composition?). Targets chosen for visibility with TNG, but not clear which other quantitative selection criteria have been applied. An idea of the size of the error bars would have been useful. Not clear if TESS data have already been used to select targets for the present proposal or whether they will be used for some future proposals.
The science is very well presented and the timeliness aspect of this proposal is excellent. There is clear demonstration that the team is skilled and has all the tools necessary for a successful and quick processing of the data.	It would have been interesting to see some prediction of the number of TESS targets that would be added to the follow-up.

The proposal is a project in progress and applies for 27 hours; the driver is the observing time for 5 targets.

This project aims to make RV measurements of candidate transiting exoplanets with the aim to determine mass and density. The project will make use of HARPS-N instrument. The project is addressing an very interesting scientific topic and contributes to its solution. It makes an optimal use of the TNG instrumentation and S/N requirements are met. The requested time is well justified, and a complete list of targets is presented. The team presents a data reduction plan.

The team does not present a publication plan.

In this project the HARPS-N spectrograph data will be used to conclusively confirm 4 candidate transiting planets (plus a backup target) identified by means of HATSouth project. Then their mass and density will be established.

Selected candidates orbit hot-stars with relatively long periods (6-28 days). This sample, to be increased in the future, will help to better understand i) planet physical properties not affected by the stellar irradiation and ii) transition from gas giant to ice giant planets.

This study is highly timing in view of TESS new results.

The proposers are qualified to conduct this scientific investigation.

Future TESS candidates will be used to increase the statistics of relatively long period planets orbiting hot stars. However, synergies with TESS are described in general terms, although large portion of the proposal is dedicated to the TESS mission. Conversely, the method that will be used to process HARPS-N data is just mentioned.

Possible follow-up studies with JWST are mentioned in the abstract but not discussed in the proposal.