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The Colorado High-resolution Echelle Stellar Spectrograph (CHESS) design and status.

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I present a new far-ultraviolet echelle spectrograph which should provide resolving power greater than any currently existing far-ultraviolet instrument. We are using new gratings, detectors, and coatings that allow substantial advances in performance. I will present the current status of the design, and discuss known challenges and our plans to resolve them. While the design purpose of this instrument is for observations of nearby hot stars, the technologies we incorporate will allow for advances relevant to observation subjects from protoplanetary disks to the intergalactic medium. Incorporating such a spectrograph into a future, long-duration mission will make new high-quality observations possible and enhance our understanding of astrophysical plasmas.

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