POLAR - The gamma-ray burst polarimetry experiment onboard China’s TG-2 spacelab

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ABSTRACT

On 2016-09-15, the gamma-ray burst polarimetry experiment, POLAR, onboard China’s Tiangong-2 spacelab has been launched. The main scientific goal of the experiment is to measure the polarization of gamma-rays from gamma-ray bursts between 50–200 keV. POLAR will be able to detect about 50 gamma-ray bursts per year and can measure the polarization with precision of about 10% for the brightest gamma-ray bursts. POLAR can also detect solar flares and the Crab pulsar and measurement their polarization. In this talk I will describe the POLAR instrument and report some early results.