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Subject: Re: Uneven background removal  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 09 Apr 2012 13:04:20 GMT  
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On Monday, April 9, 2012 3:19:15 AM UTC-4, arun wrote:

> Hi there,  
> I am having difficulty while removing the dark patch of the H-alpha image. I wish to remove that. The dirty image is put for reference on the link:  
>  
> [www.prl.res.in/~awasthi/Files/5\\_9\\_1.jpg](http://www.prl.res.in/~awasthi/Files/5_9_1.jpg)

It's unclear if you are trying to remove a dark patch like the one near  $(X,Y) = (110,85)$ ? or do you mean the dark horizontal band? Since your (probable) signal and (probable) background are of comparable amplitudes, the job will be quite difficult. I don't think there will be a fool-proof recipe that anybody could give to you on a newsgroup.

If you want to remove the band, I think you could retrieve an average of each row, and then subtract that value from each row. Unfortunately, that may subtract some of the signal.

If you want to get more sophisticated, then it might be better to look for step-function jumps in the row averages (i.e. discontinuities), and then remove those.

Even better, try to find out if your instrument has calibration dark frames which you could use for subtraction.

Best wishes,  
Craig Markwardt

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