
Subject: continuum normalized spectra
Posted by [abc](#) on Sat, 02 Feb 2013 18:37:35 GMT
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Hi All,

I want to write a program to fit a linear local continuum of absorption line, and plot the spectrum with continuum drawn and the spectrum normalized by the continuum. And then I want to fit a local continuum using data in the wavelength ranges 1800-1820 and 2020-2040 angstroms.

Does anyone know that how can I do that

thanks

Subject: Re: continuum normalized spectra
Posted by [abc](#) on Sun, 03 Feb 2013 14:33:30 GMT
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On Sunday, February 3, 2013 3:22:54 PM UTC+1, Mats Löfdahl wrote:

> Den söndagen den 3:e februari 2013 kl. 09:09:20 UTC+1 skrev idlhelp:

>

>> On Saturday, February 2, 2013 7:42:39 PM UTC+1, David Fanning wrote:

>

>>

>

>>> idlhelp writes:

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>>>> I want to write a program to fit a linear local continuum of absorption line, and plot the spectrum with continuum drawn and the spectrum normalized by the continuum. And then I want to fit a local continuum using data in the wavelength ranges 1800-1820 and 2020-2040 angstroms.

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>>>> Does anyone know that how can I do that
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>>>> Yes, probably. But, not without a hell of a lot more information. :-)
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>>>> Cheers,
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>>> David
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>
>> ; filename - the filename of the input spectrum
>
>>
>
>> ; column - the number of columns in the file
>
>>
>
>> ; row - the number of rows in the file
>
>>
>
>> ; boxsize - the size of the boxcar for the smoothing function
>
>>
>
>> ; dofit - the user keyword
>
>>
>
>> ; dofityes - the variable containing the input parameter
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>
>> data = fltarr(column, row)
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```

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>>
>
>> ; open the file as read only
>
>>
>
>> openr,lun,filename,/get_lun
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>>
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>>
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>>
>
>> ; read the data from the file into the array
>
>>
>
>> readf,lun,data
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> ; close the file
>
>>
>
>> close,/all
>
>>
>
>>
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>>
>
>>
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>>
>
>> wave=reform(data(0,*))
>
>>
```

```
>
>> flux=reform(data(1,*))
>
>>
>
>>
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>>
>
>>
>
>> ; This creates a new array containing the results generate
>
>>
>
>> ; by the smooth function.
>
>>
>
>> smoothed_flux = smooth(flux,boxsize)
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> ; check to see if the user would like to fit the continuum
>
>>
>
>> if keyword_set(dofityes) then begin ; this check the dofit keyword
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> ; fit velocity and smoothed_flux, using a 1st order polynomial.
>
>>
```

```
>
>> result = poly_fit(wave,smoothed_flux,1)
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> ; generate the continuum with the results from the fit
>
>>
>
>> continuum = result(0) + result(1)*wave
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> end
```

```
>> But I am not sure that I am doing the continuum normalization to unity in a right way. Because when I make plots the contunum level is higher than the unity.
```

```
>
>
>
> As far as I can see, you don't do any normalization at all. You calculate the fit, but you never operate on the original (or smoothed) spectrum with that fit. I guess you need to divide the spectrum with the fit.
```

Ahh I forgot, I am dividing the spectrum by the continuum like that but still the continuum is far from unity

```
; for continuum normalization
smoothed_flux = smoothed_flux/continuum
```

Subject: Re: continuum normalized spectra
Posted by on Sun, 03 Feb 2013 21:43:06 GMT
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```
Den s ndagen den 3:e februari 2013 kl. 15:33:30 UTC+1 skrev idlhelp:
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>>>> idlhelp writes:
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the spectrum with continuum drawn and the spectrum normalized by the continuum. And than I
want to Fit a local continuum using data in the wavelength ranges 1800-1820 and 2020-2040
angstroms.
>
>>>> > Does anyone know that how can I do that
>>>
>>> ok so here is the information. This is how I am doing :-)
>>> ; filename - the filename of the input spectrum
>>> ; column - the number of columns in the file
>>> ; row - the number of rows in the file
>>> ; boxsize - the size of the boxcar for the smoothing function
>>> ; dofit - the user keyword
>>> ; dofityes - the variable containing the input parameter
>>> data = fltarr(column, row)
>>> ; open the file as read only
>>> openr,lun,filename,/get_lun
>>> ; read the data from the file into the array
>>> readf,lun,data
>>> ; close the file
>>> close,/all
>>> wave=reform(data(0,*))
>>> flux=reform(data(1,*))
>>> ; This creates a new array containing the results generate
>>> ; by the smooth function.
>>> smoothed_flux = smooth(flux,boxsize)
>>> ; check to see if the user would like to fit the continuum
>>> if keyword_set(dofityes) then begin ; this check the dofit keyword
>>> ; fit velocity and smoothed_flux, using a 1st order polynomial.
>>> result = poly_fit(wave,smoothed_flux,1)
>>> ; generate the continuum with the results from the fit
>>> continuum = result(0) + result(1)*wave
>>> end
>
```

>>> But I am not sure that I am doing the continuum normalization to unity in a right way. Because when I make plots the continuum level is higher than the unity.

>

>> As far as I can see, you don't do any normalization at all. You calculate the fit, but you never operate on the original (or smoothed) spectrum with that fit. I guess you need to divide the spectrum with the fit.

>

> Ahh I forgot, I am dividing the spectrum by the continuum like that

> but still the continuum is far from unity

>

> ; for continuum normalization

>

> smoothed_flux = smoothed_flux/continuum

Alright. Next thing I wonder is where you do that selection of wavelength ranges you mentioned in your first posting. Is that already done in another part of the program, and stored that way in the file you read here? Because if you fit a straight line to the spectrum in an interval that includes the absorption line, then of course the fitted line will be lower than the continuum level.
