

# 20250511 ppxf mass to light

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## 1. Data

I am still using IC3392

```
Cube dimensions → nz = 3761, ny = 438, nx = 437
```

## 2. Wavelength cutoff and velocity scale

"Sky subtraction is clearly not perfect, but the best that we can do for the moment. Below  $7000\text{\AA}$  it is generally acceptable, at longer wavelengths the situation is worse."

So I make a cutoff at  $\sim 7000\text{\AA}$ . Actually, now it remains  $4750 - 7050\text{\AA}$ :

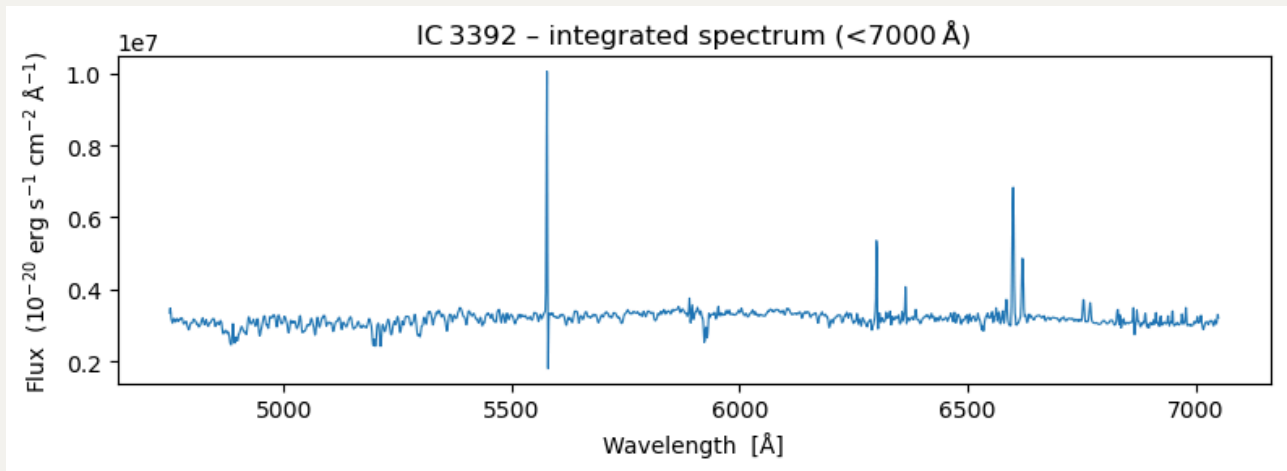
```
lam_min = 4750.0          # min  $\lambda$  in  $\text{\AA}$   
lam_max = 7050.0          # max  $\lambda$  in  $\text{\AA}$ 
```

Then I compute the velocity scale:

```
c_kms    = c.c.to(u.km/u.s).value      # 299 792.458  
dln $\lambda$  = np.diff(np.log(lam_ang))    # dln $\lambda$  in  $\text{\AA}$   
velscale  = np.min(c_kms * dln $\lambda$ )    # km/s per pixel
```

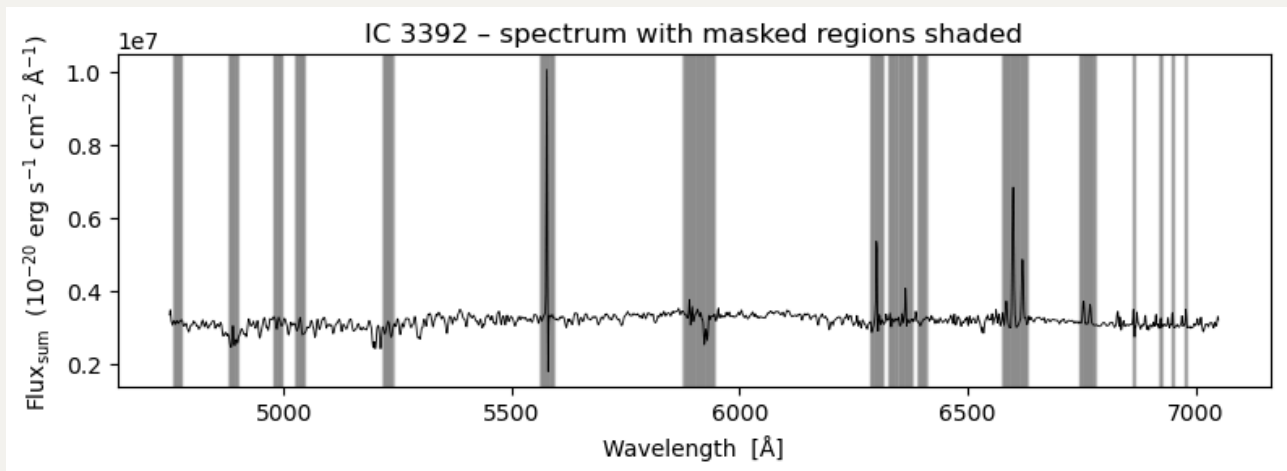
This gives  $53.16\text{km/s}$ .

Here is the native spectrum:



### 3. Mask emission lines

Since we are only interested in the continuum, I mask the emission lines from galaxy (observer frame) and air (rest frame) by `specMask_KIN.txt`. I just mask them without modifying the raw spectrum:



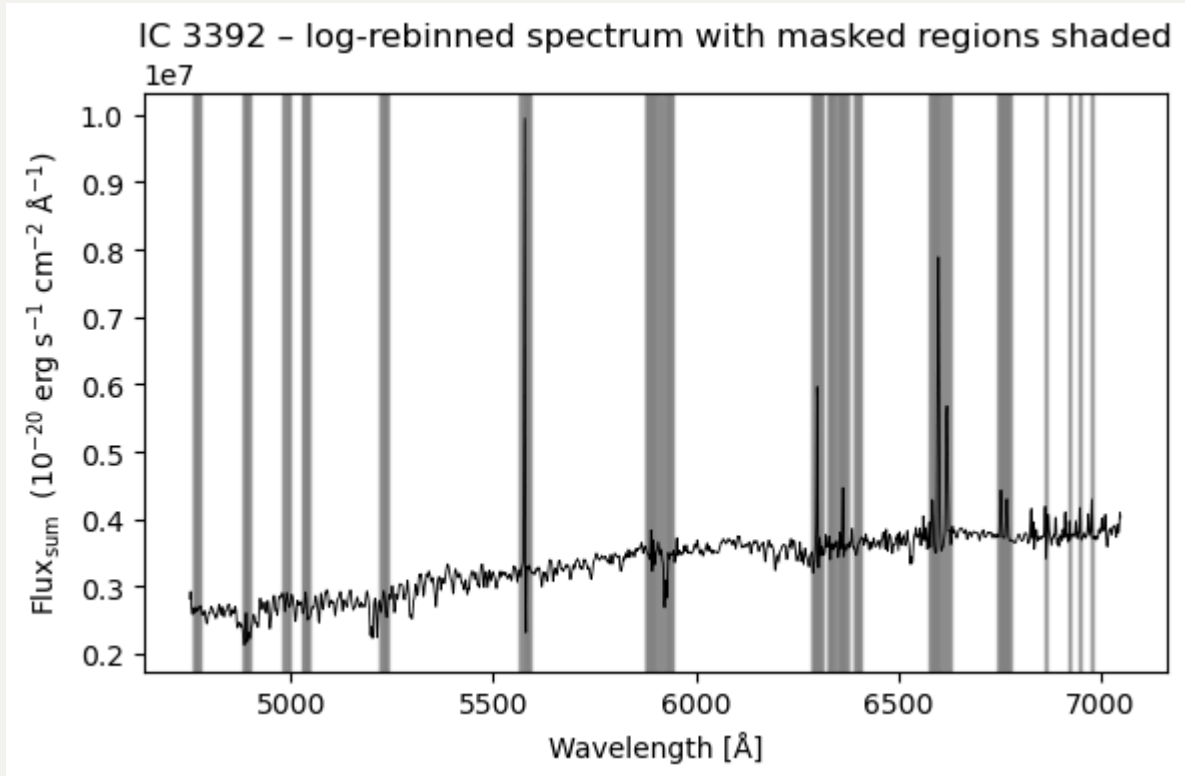
Note: "Because the MUSE spectrographs do not operate in vacuum the wavelength calibration is based on arc line wavelengths in standard air ([Weilbacher et al. 2020](#))." Thus, it is correct that we are taking the lines measure in air.

### 4. `log_rebin`

Now I need to do `log_rebin`. It seems that this is one of the requirements in `pPXF`. But the question is that, why in natural log rather than  $\log_{10}$  (same question for `velscale`)? No need to multiply an extra constant when taking derivative?

I still do `log_rebin` anyway for both flux and noise, and I force `velscale=velscale`, so I got:

```
Log-grid length : 2228 pixels
velscale       : 53.159 km/s
```



## 5. SPS templates: E-MILES

Then I load the SPS templates. Here I choose `spectra_emiles_9.0.npz` because it seems to be more suitable for IFS data.

E-MILES SPS model templates: [Vazdekis et al. \(2016\)](#).

## 6. FWHM and MUSE LSF

`pPXF` requires the stellar templates and the galaxy spectrum to have the same instrumental resolution before it adds any extra broadening for the LOSVD.

[Emsellem+2022](#) use this equation for MUSE LSF:

$$FWHM(\lambda [\text{\AA}]) = 5.866 \times 10^{-8} \lambda^2 - 9.187 \times 10^{-4} \lambda + 6.040.$$

The idea is that the templates should have the same FWHM as muse, so:

```
lam_temp_arr = np.arange(lam_min, lam_max+1, dtype=int)
```

```

fwhm_gal = {
    "lam": lam_temp_arr,
    "fwhm": 5.866e-8 * lam_temp_arr**2
            - 9.187e-4 * lam_temp_arr
            + 6.040
}

sps = lib.sps_lib(
    filename, vel_scale_out, fwhm_gal,
    norm_range=[lam_min, lam_max],
    lam_range=[3e3, 1e4],
)

```

## 7. pPXF fitting

By passing the mask regions as the `goodpixels`, we can run `pPXF` (I choose to include regularization):

```

reg_dim = sps.templates.shape[1:]
stars_templates = sps.templates.reshape(sps.templates.shape[0], -1)
regul_err = 0.1 # Large regularization error

# Compute which rebinned pixels fall on unmasked (good) λ
lam_grid = np.exp(log_lam) # rebinned wavelengths
in Å
pix = np.searchsorted(lam_ang, lam_grid)
goodpixels = np.where(~mask_bad[pix])[0]

# Run pPXF only on those good pixels
from ppxf import ppxf

start_v = v_guess
start_sig = 5 * vel_scale_out

pp = ppxf.ppxf(
    # templates = sps.templates,
    templates = stars_templates,
    galaxy = log_flux,
)

```

```

noise      = log_noise,
velscale   = velscale_out,
start      = [start_v, start_sig],
degree     = 12,
mdegree    = 0,
moments    = 2,
# trig     = 1,
# clean    = True,
goodpixels = goodpixels,
lam        = np.e**(log_lam),
lam_temp   = sps.lam_temp,
regul      = 1/regul_err,
reg_dim    = reg_dim,
plot       = True)

print(f"v = {pp.sol[0]:.3f} km/s,  σ = {pp.sol[1]:.3f} km/s")

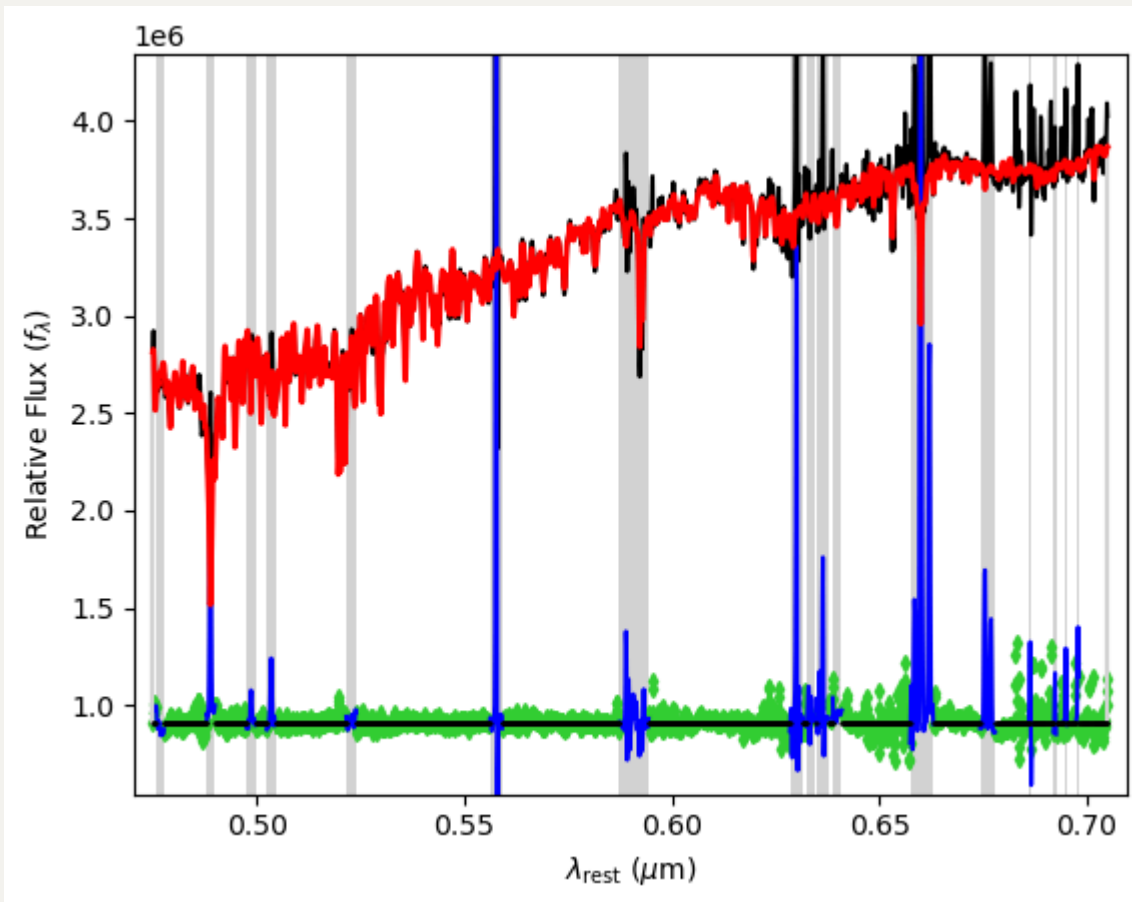
```

Note that "Unless a good initial guess is available, it is recommended to set the starting sigma  $\geq 3 \times \text{velscale}$  in km/s (i.e. 3 pixels)." Here I choose initial guess to be `start_v` as my estimation when matching the emission line at observer frame, and `start_sig` to be 5 times of velocity scale. Fitting model is set as an additive polynomial of 12 with no multiplicative polynomial and first 2 moments of Gauss–Hermite expansion. This yields:

```

Best Fit:      vel      sigma
comp.  0:      1675      56
chi2/DOF: 913.9; DOF: 1833; degree = 12; mdegree = 0
method = capfit; Jac calls: 4; Func calls: 14; Status: 2
linear_method = lsq_box; Nonzero Templates (>0.1%): 118/150
v = 1675.283 km/s,  σ = 56.196 km/s

```



## 8. Mass-to-Light ratio

Now with the fitting results, I can extract the weight to get M/L. Since we pick wavelength within  $4750 \sim 7000\text{\AA}$ , I choose the M/L in r band of SDSS.

```
z_fit = pp.sol[0] / c_kms
print(f"Fitted redshift : {z_fit:.5f}")
# # ----- Composite M/L from pPXF weights -----
----
weights = pp.weights.reshape(reg_dim) / pp.weights.sum()
ML_r = sps.mass_to_light(weights, band="SDSS/r", redshift=z_fit,)
        # intrinsic M/L (dimensionless)
print(f"M/L (r band) : {ML_r:.3f}  M $\odot$ /L $\odot$  =
log({np.log10(ML_r):.3f}  M $\odot$ /L $\odot$ )")
```

This returns:

```
Fitted redshift : 0.00559
(M*/L)=2.677 (SDSS/r at z=0.0056)
M/L (r band) : 2.677  M $\odot$ /L $\odot$  = log(0.428  M $\odot$ /L $\odot$ )
```

Now I can also find the r band luminosity and compute the total stellar mass:

```
D = 11.5 * u.Mpc                # Virgo distance

# 0) r-band data
lam = lam_ang * u.angstrom
F_lambda = flux_sum * 1e-20 * u.erg/u.s/u.cm**2/u.angstrom
mask_r = (lam_ang > 5400) & (lam_ang < 7000)
lam_r = lam[mask_r]
F_lambda_r = F_lambda[mask_r]

# 1) Convert to Fv
F_v = (F_lambda_r * lam_r**2 / c.c).to(u.erg/u.s/u.cm**2/u.Hz)

# 2) Sort and integrate over v
v = (c.c / lam_r).to(u.Hz)
idx = np.argsort(v)
v_sorted, Fv_sorted = v[idx], F_v[idx]

Fv_int = np.trapezoid(Fv_sorted, v_sorted)
Delta_v = v_sorted.max() - v_sorted.min()
Fv_avg = Fv_int / Delta_v

# 3) AB zero-point
Fv0 = (3631 * u.Jy).to(u.erg/u.s/u.cm**2/u.Hz)

# 4) AB magnitude
m_r = -2.5 * np.log10(Fv_avg / Fv0)
print(f"AB apparent magnitude = {m_r:.3f}")

# 5) Compute absolute magnitude
M_r = m_r - 5 * np.log10(D.to(u.pc).value / 10)

# 6) Solar AB magnitude in r-band
M_sun_r = ppxf_util.mag_sun(bands="SDSS/r", redshift=z_fit,
                             system="AB")[0]

# 7) Luminosity in solar units
L_r_sun = 10**(-0.4 * (M_r - M_sun_r))
print(f"Absolute M_r = {M_r:.2f}, M_sun,r = {M_sun_r:.2f}")
```

```

print(f"r-band luminosity = {L_r_sun:.3e} L_sun =
log({np.log10(L_r_sun):.3f} L $\odot$ )")

# 8) Get the physical luminosity in erg/s:
L_r = L_r_sun * c.L_sun
print(f"r-band luminosity = {L_r:.3e}")

# 9) Given that we know the mass-to-light ratio, we can compute the
stellar mass
M_star = ML_r * L_r_sun
print(f"Log M_star : log({np.log10(M_star):.3f} M $\odot$ )")

```

Finally, we have

```

AB apparent magnitude = 12.369
Absolute M_r = -17.93, M_sun,r = 4.65
r-band luminosity = 1.077e+09 L_sun = log(9.032 L $\odot$ )
r-band luminosity = 4.121e+35 W
Log M_star : log(9.460 M $\odot$ )

```

Note. At first, I forgot to normalize the SPS templates by using `norm_range`, and that leads to  $M_*/L_r = 8$  last Thursday. Later on I add `norm_range` but this still gives unreasonable value  $\sim 0.9$ . Just today I realized that I shouldn't further `sps.templates /= np.median(sps.templates)`, otherwise this will affect the weighting in `pPXF` and thus yields wrong  $M_*/L_*$  ratio. Also by correctly set up normalization of SPS templates, it can resolve the fitting issue at  $H_\beta$  absorption.

I also show the weights fraction here:

