

# curve-of-growth

September 8, 2018

## 1 Tarea 5 - Equivalent widths of absorption lines

Find the curve of growth: equivalent width versus line strength. Assume a Voigt (Hjelmberg) line profile and a Milne-Eddington model for the line formation.

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
        from astropy.convolution import convolve_fft, Gaussian1DKernel
        from scipy.integrate import quad
        from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
        %matplotlib inline
        import seaborn as sns
        sns.set(context='notebook',
                style='whitegrid',
                palette='dark',
                font_scale=1.5,
                color_codes=True,
                rc={'figure.figsize': (8,6)},
                )
```

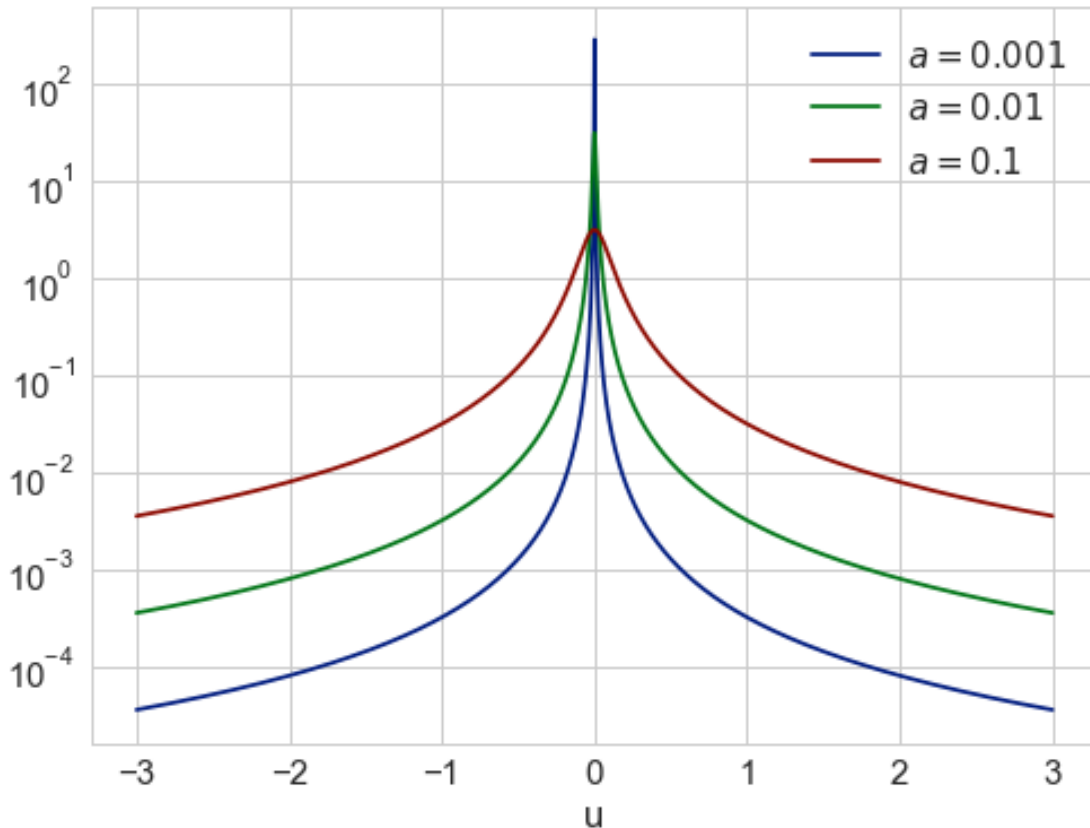
### 1.1 The absorption profile

The absorption profile  $\phi_\nu$  is the convolution of a Gaussian and a Lorentzian. We construct the Lorentzian explicitly and then use FFT to convolve with the Gaussian. We use a dimensional frequency shift,  $u$ , which is in units of the Doppler width:  $u \equiv (\nu - \nu_0)/\Delta\nu_D$ .

```
In [2]: def Lorentz(u, a=1e-6):
        return (a / np.pi) / (a**2 + u**2)
```

Test the Lorentz function

```
In [3]: fig, ax = plt.subplots()
        ugrid = np.linspace(-3.0, 3.0, 10000)
        for a in reversed([0.1, 0.01, 0.001]):
            ax.plot(ugrid, Lorentz(ugrid, a), label=f"$a = {a}$")
        ax.legend()
        ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u")
        None
```



So, this seems to work. Note that the central peak is higher for smaller  $a$ , since it is normalized to unit area under the curve.

### 1.1.1 Convolution method for integral (mainly works, if we are careful)

First we use the default parameters for FFT convolution in `astropy.convolution`.

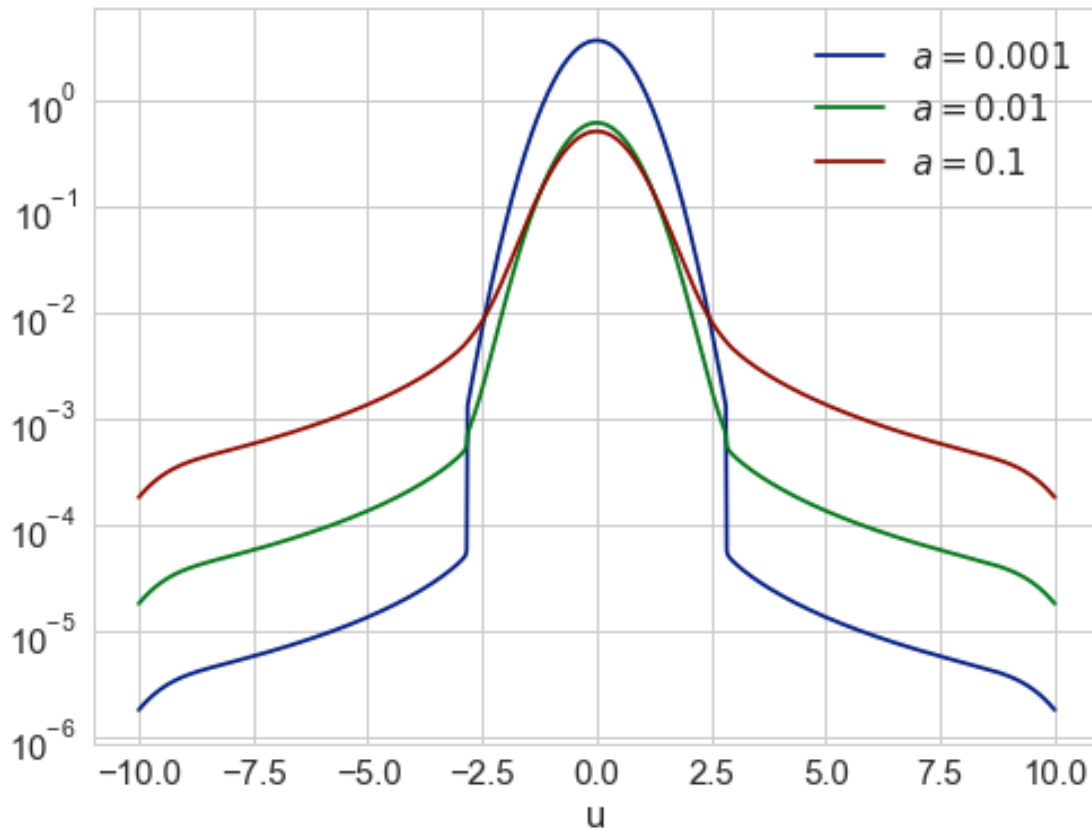
**Note:** *This does not work well, as we will see.*

```
In [4]: ugrid = np.linspace(-10.0, 10.0, 1001)
        ustep = ugrid[1] - ugrid[0]
        kernel = Gaussian1DKernel(stddev=1.0/np.sqrt(2)/ustep)
        def H_conv_naive(u, a=1e-6):
            return convolve_fft(Lorentz(u, a), kernel)
```

Note that the kernel width must be given in pixels, not in units of  $u$ , so we first calculate the pixel size `ustep` and use a standard deviation of  $1.0/\text{ustep}$  pixels, which corresponds to 1 in units of  $u$ .

```
In [5]: fig, ax = plt.subplots()
        for a in reversed([0.1, 0.01, 0.001]):
            ax.plot(ugrid, H_conv_naive(ugrid, a), label=f"$a = {a}$")
        ax.legend()
```

```
ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u")
None
```



So, there are three problems with this:

1. The turn down at the left and right edges.
2. The jump at  $u = \pm 4$ .
3. The normalization seems wrong

We fix these as follows:

1. Extend the  $u$  range to  $[-11, 11]$ , but only plot the range  $[-10, 10]$
2. Use the `x_size` optional parameter to make the kernel array the same size as `ugrid`, rather than the default of  $8\sigma$ .
3. Just use more points (I don't understand why this makes a difference, and the normalization still doesn't look quite right).

I also plot the pure Gaussian kernel in black.

```
In [6]: def H_conv(u, a=1e-6):
        ustep = u[1] - u[0]
```

```

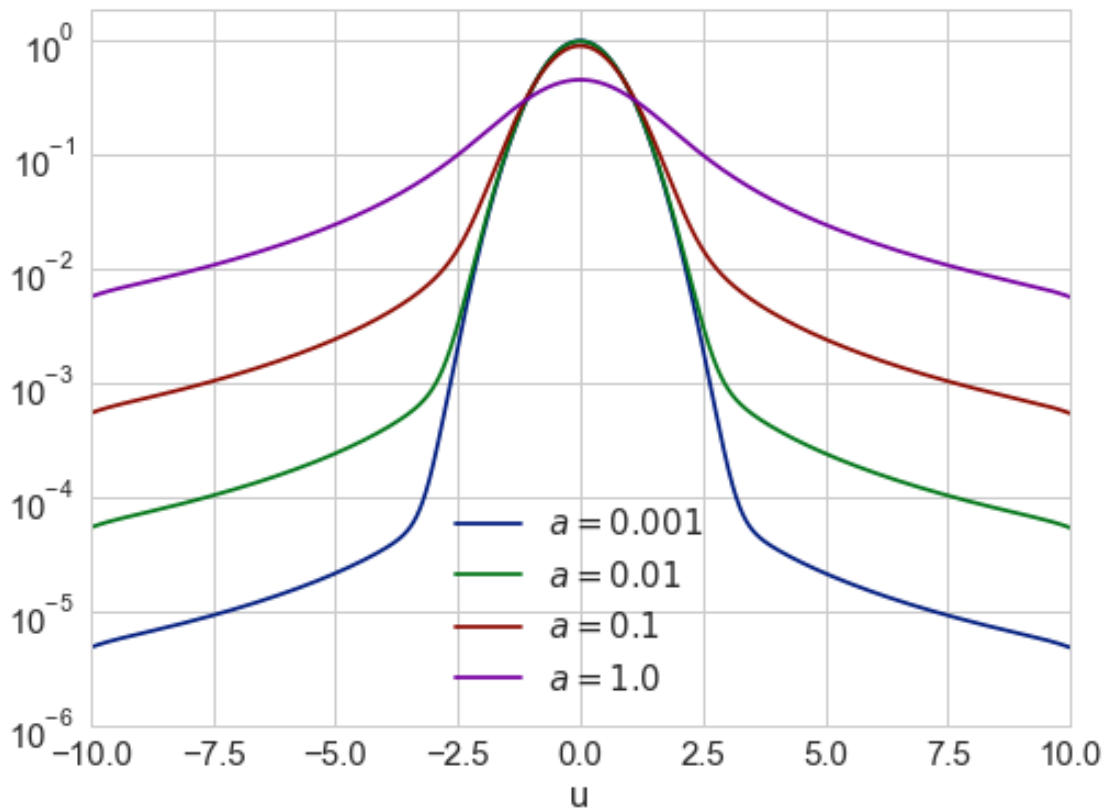
kernel_wide = Gaussian1DKernel(stddev=1.0/np.sqrt(2)/ustep, x_size=len(u))
kernel_wide.normalize("peak")
result = convolve_fft(Lorentz(u, a), kernel_wide)
return np.sqrt(np.pi)*result/np.trapz(result, u)

```

```

In [7]: ugrid = np.linspace(-11.0, 11.0, 10001)
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
for a in reversed([1.0, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001]):
    ax.plot(ugrid, H_conv(ugrid, a), label=f"$a = {a}$")
ax.legend()
ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u", xlim=[-10.0, 10.0], ylim=[1e-6, None])
None

```



### 1.1.2 Quadrature method for integral (fails for small damping parameter)

```

In [8]: def Gauss(u):
        return np.exp(-u**2)

In [9]: def H_integrand(y, u, a):
        return Gauss(y)*Lorentz(u-y, a)

```

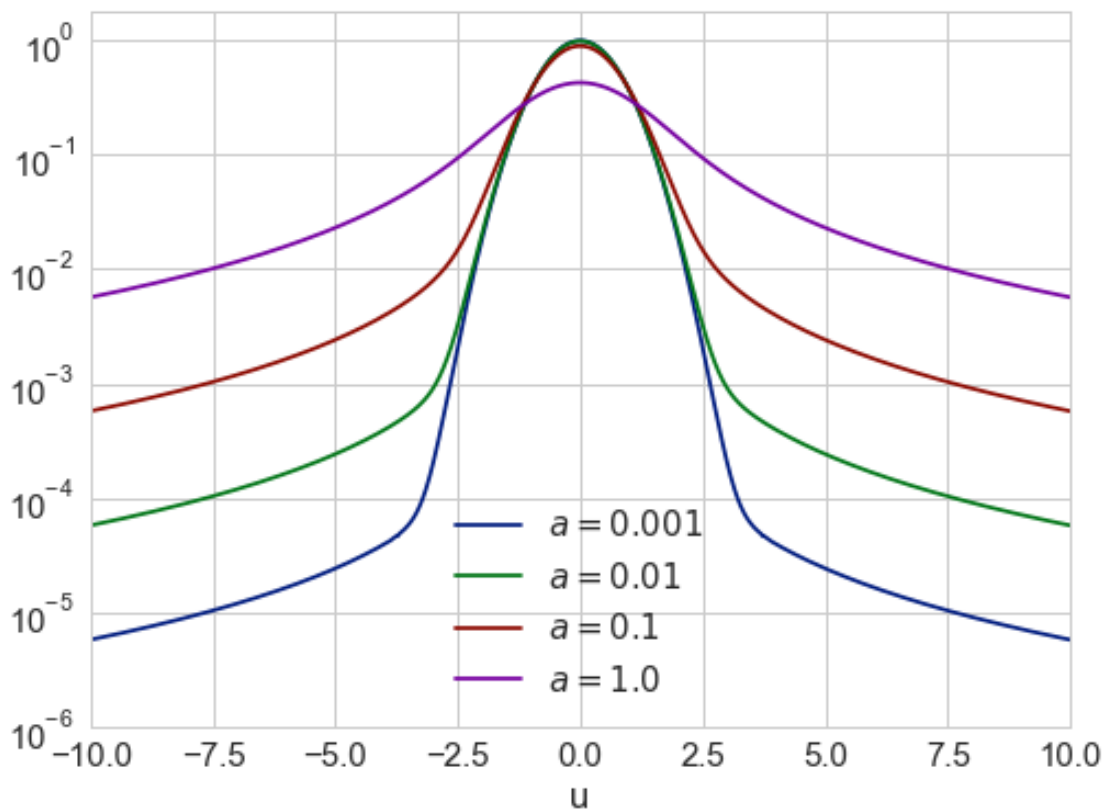
```

In [10]: def H_quad_scalar(u, a):
          result, error = quad(H_integrand, -np.infty, np.infty, args=(u, a))
          return result

In [11]: @np.vectorize
          def H_quad(u, a):
              return H_quad_scalar(u, a)

In [12]: ugrid = np.linspace(-10.0, 10.0, 1000)
          fig, ax = plt.subplots()
          for a in reversed([1.0, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001]):
              ax.plot(ugrid, H_quad(ugrid, a), label=f"$a = {a}$")
          ax.legend()
          ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u", xlim=[-10.0, 10.0], ylim=[1e-6, None])
          None

```



So that is fine for those  $a$  values, although it is much slower than the FFT method. And, the normalization looks fine, which is an improvement. But what if we make  $a$  smaller?

```

In [13]: ugrid = np.linspace(-10.0, 10.0, 1000)
          fig, ax = plt.subplots()
          for a in reversed([0.0005, 0.0001]):
              ax.plot(ugrid, H_quad(ugrid, a), label=f"$a = {a}$")

```

```

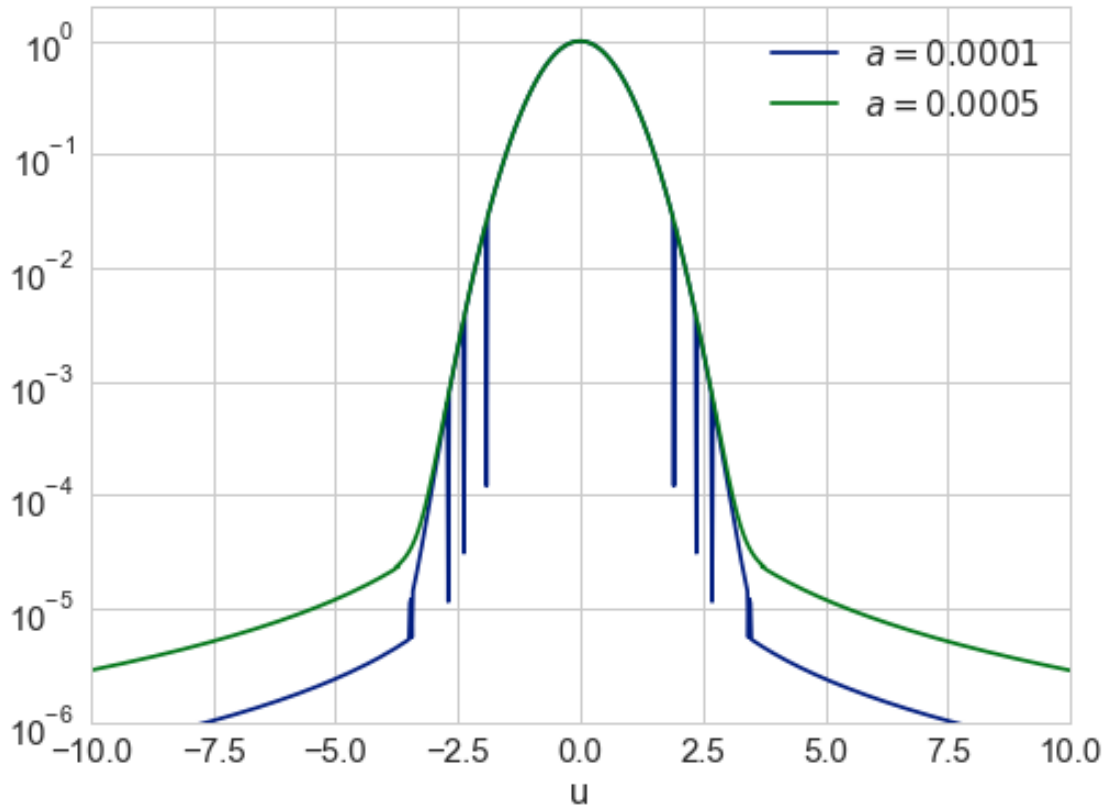
ax.legend()
ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u", xlim=[-10.0, 10.0], ylim=[1e-6, None])
None

```

```

/Users/will/anaconda/lib/python3.6/site-packages/scipy/integrate/quadpack.py:364: IntegrationWarning:
  warnings.warn(msg, IntegrationWarning)

```



We can put off the inevitable by using more points, but this makes everything painfully slow.

### 1.1.3 Fadeeva function method (this is the best method: fast and accurate)

The Fadeeva function ([see Wikipedia](#)) is the scaled complementary error function of complex argument, and the Voigt function is its real part. It is implemented as `scipy.special.wofz`.

```
In [14]: from scipy.special import wofz
```

```

def H_wofz(u, a):
    return np.real(wofz(u + 1j*a))

```

```

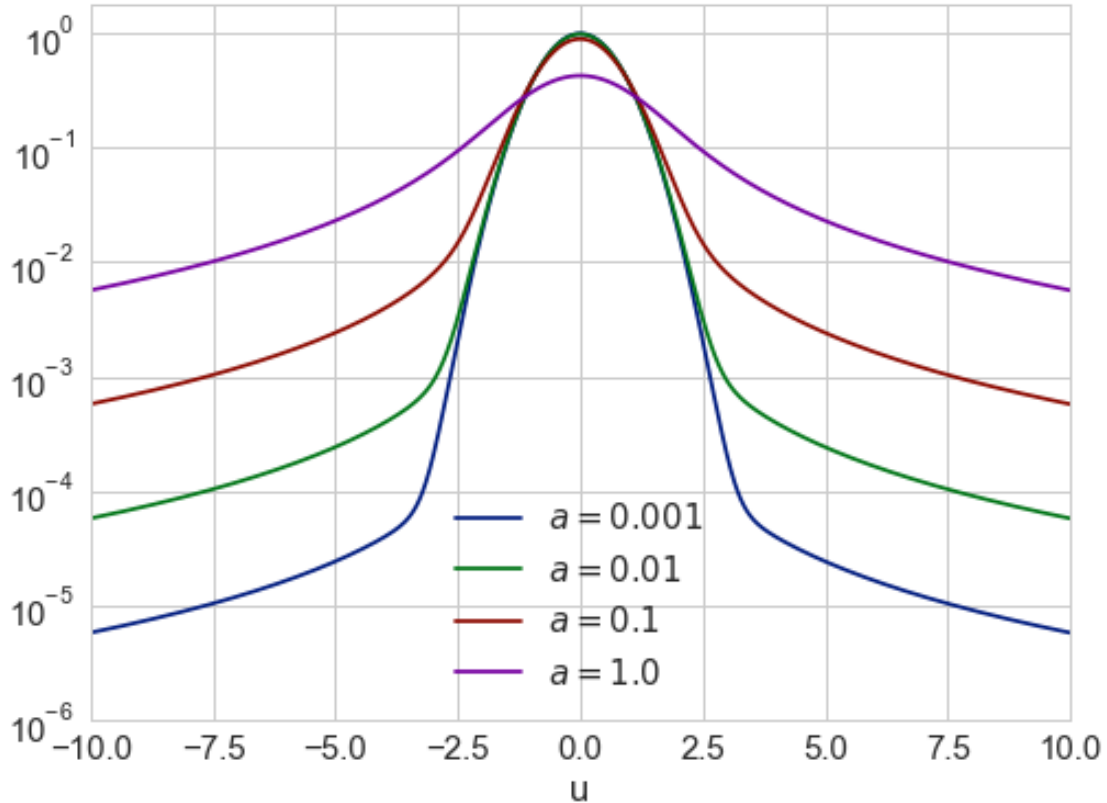
In [15]: ugrid = np.linspace(-10.0, 10.0, 1000)
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
for a in reversed([1.0, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001]):

```

```

    ax.plot(ugrid, H_wofz(ugrid, a), label=f"$a = {a}$")
    ax.legend()
    ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u", xlim=[-10.0, 10.0], ylim=[1e-6, None])
    None

```



#### 1.1.4 McLean algorithm method (very bad for small $a$ )

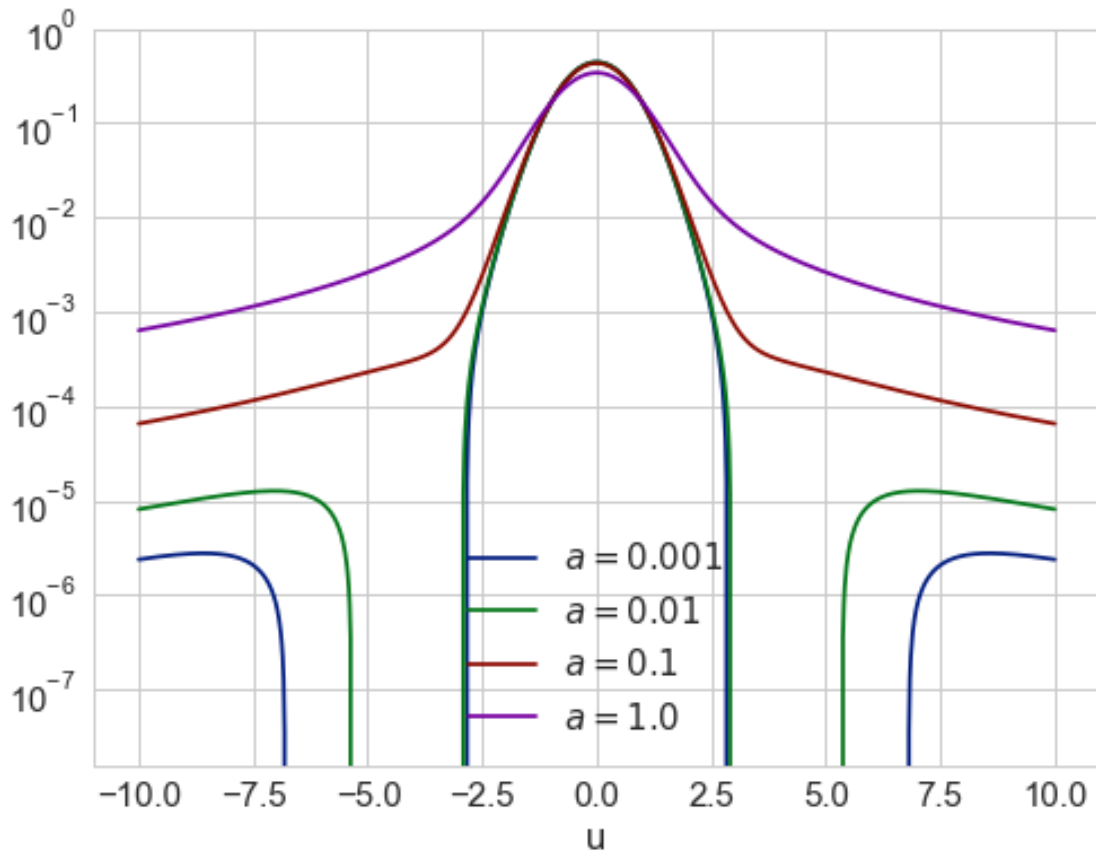
```
In [16]: from astropy.modeling.functional_models import Voigt1D
```

We need to convert from Doppler width to FWHM, which is factor of  $2\sqrt{\ln 2}$

```

In [17]: ugrid = np.linspace(-10.0, 10.0, 1000)
    fig, ax = plt.subplots()
    FWHM = 2*np.sqrt(np.log(2))
    for a in reversed([1.0, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001]):
        H_McL = Voigt1D(fwhm_G=FWHM, amplitude_L=1.0, fwhm_L=a/2)
        ax.plot(ugrid, H_McL(ugrid)/a, label=f"$a = {a}$")
    ax.legend()
    ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u")
    None

```



This is terrible. It goes negative for  $a < 0.1$ !

It turns out that there is a recent paper that points out these problems:

- [Schreier \(2008\) JQSRT 213, 13](#) *Comments on the Voigt function implementation in the Astropy and SpectraPlot.com packages*

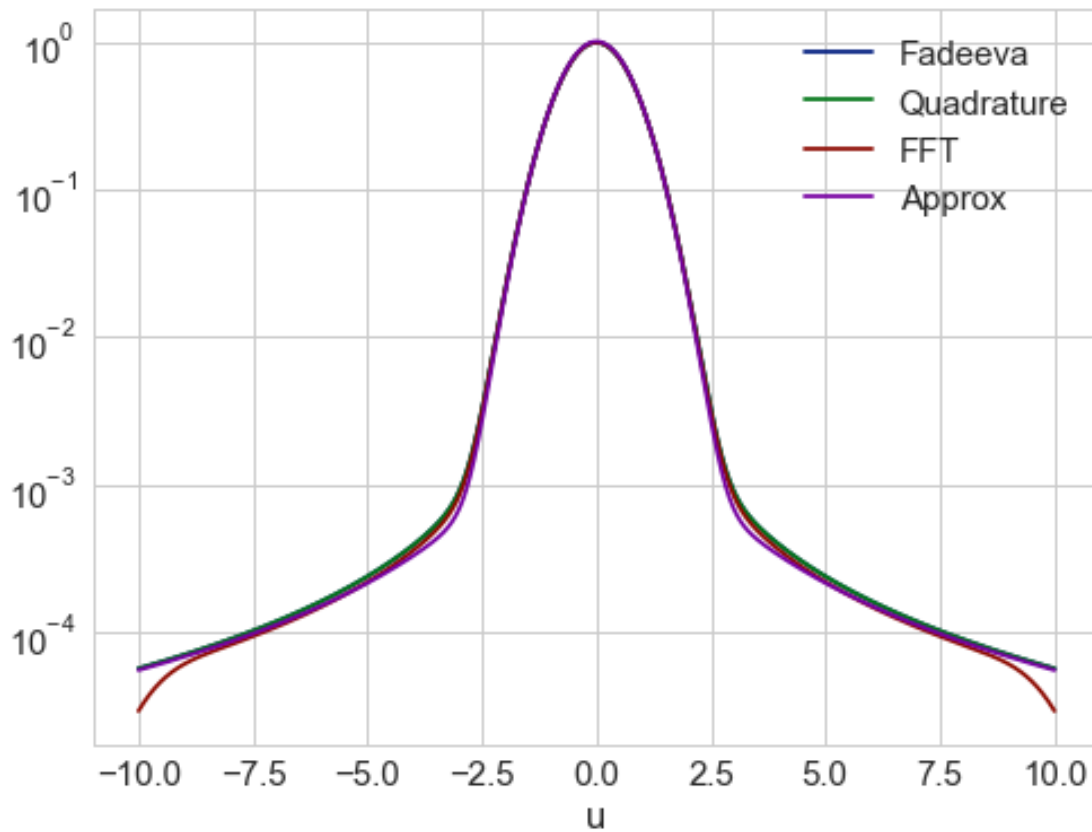
### 1.1.5 Comparison of methods

```
In [18]: def H_approx(u, a):
         return Gauss(u) + a/(1.0 + u**2)/np.sqrt(np.pi)
```

```
In [19]: a = 0.01
         ugrid = np.linspace(-10.0, 10.0, 1001)
         fig, ax = plt.subplots()
         for H, name in [
             [H_wofz, "Fadeeva"],
             [H_quad, "Quadrature"],
             [H_conv, "FFT"],
             [H_approx, "Approx"],
         ]:
             ax.plot(ugrid, H(ugrid, a), label=name)
```



```
ax.legend()
ax.set(yscale="log", xlabel="u")
None
```



### 1.1.6 Timings

```
In [20]: for H, name in [
          [H_wofz, "Fadeeva"],
          [H_quad, "Quadrature"],
          [H_conv, "FFT"],
          [H_approx, "Approx"],
        ]:
    print(f"Timing for {name} method:")
    %timeit H(ugrid, a)
    print()
```

Timing for Fadeeva method:

287  $\mu$ s  $\pm$  11.2  $\mu$ s per loop (mean  $\pm$  std. dev. of 7 runs, 1000 loops each)

Timing for Quadrature method:

2.55 s  $\pm$  209 ms per loop (mean  $\pm$  std. dev. of 7 runs, 1 loop each)

Timing for FFT method:

2.93 ms ± 152 µs per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 100 loops each)

Timing for Approx method:

46.9 µs ± 3.12 µs per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 10000 loops each)

### 1.1.7 Conclusions about methods

- The Fadeeva method is by far the best. It is very efficient and accurate.
- Quadrature is accurate for  $a \geq 0.001$ , but it is 5000 times slower.
- FFT is 10 times slower and suffers from edge effects
- McLean is hopelessly inaccurate for  $a < 0.1$

## 1.2 The line flux profile $F_\nu$

We define the frequency-dependent line opacity relative to the continuum as  $\beta_\nu = \beta_0 \phi_\nu$ , where  $\beta_0 = \chi_\ell / \kappa_c$ . In the Milne–Eddington approximation for LTE lines, the line absorption depth can be written as (see Hubeny & Mihalas, eq.~[17.189])

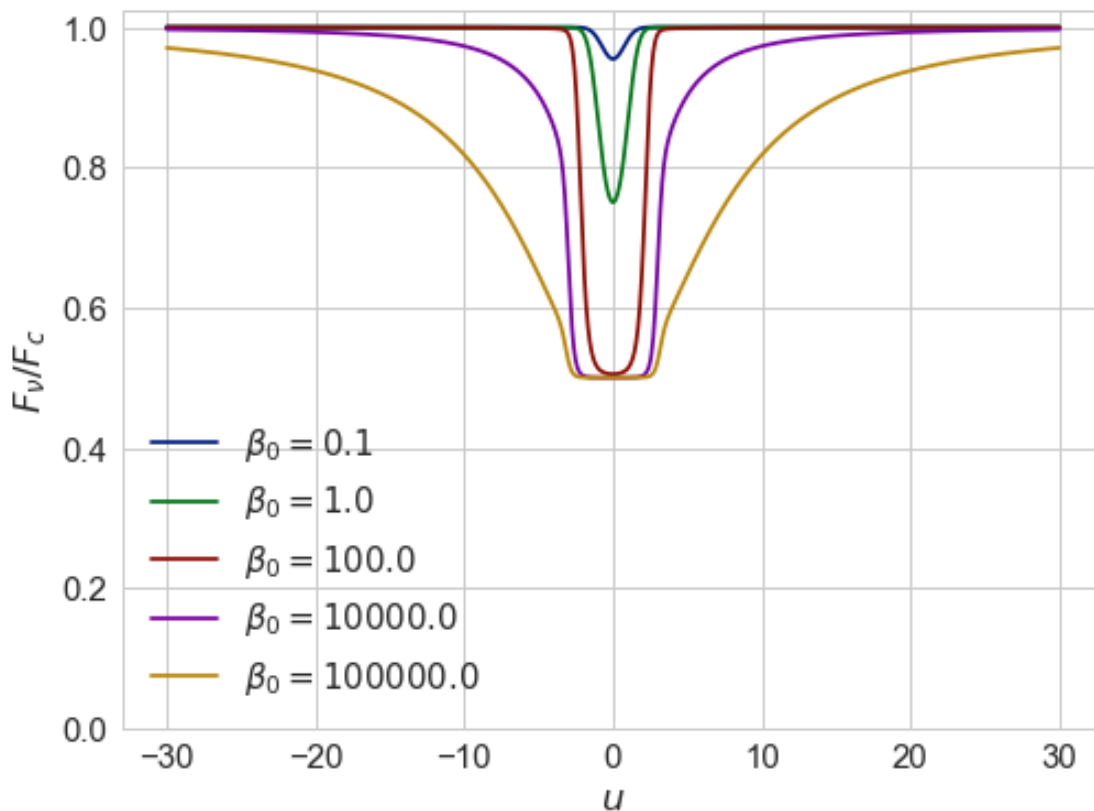
$$A_\nu = \frac{A_0 \beta_\nu}{1 + \beta_\nu}$$

where  $A_0$  is the infinitely opaque limiting absorption depth,  $A_0 = (1 + 3B_0/2B_1)^{-1}$ , which depends on how the LTE source function varies with depth:  $B_\nu(\tau_c) = B_0 + B_1\tau_c$ . The line flux is given by  $F_\nu = F_c(1 - A_\nu)$ .

```
In [21]: def A(u, a, beta0, A0):  
        """Absorption depth"""  
        beta_nu = beta0*H_wofz(u, a)  
        return A0*beta_nu/(1.0 + beta_nu)
```

For illustration, we use  $A_0 = 0.5$  and  $a = 0.001$ .

```
In [22]: ugrid = np.linspace(-30.0, 30.0, 1001)  
        fig, ax = plt.subplots()  
        A0 = 0.5  
        a = 1.e-3  
        for beta0 in [0.1, 1.0, 100.0, 1e4, 1e5]:  
            label = fr"$\beta_0 = {beta0}$"  
            ax.plot(ugrid, 1.0 - A(ugrid, a, beta0, A0), label=label)  
        ax.legend()  
        ax.set(ylim=[0.0, None], xlabel="$u$", ylabel=r"$F_\nu/F_c$")  
        None
```



This shows the transition from weaker to stronger lines, showing saturation for  $\beta_0 \geq 100$  and damping wings for  $\beta_0 \geq a^{-1}$ .

### 1.3 The equivalent width, $W_\nu$

Defined as  $W_\nu = \int_0^\infty A_\nu d\nu$ .

```
In [23]: def W(a, beta0, A0):
         """Equivalent width in units of the Doppler width"""
         result, error = quad(A, -np.infty, np.infty, args=(a, beta0, A0))
         return result
```

Integration limits of  $u$  are  $[-\infty, \infty]$ . We just send those in directly, and let the quadrature routine sort it out.

```
In [24]: from astropy.table import Table
```

```
Table(rows=[(x, W(a, x, A0)) for x in [0.1, 1.0, 100.0, 1e4, 1e6]], names=["beta0", "W"])
```

```
Out[24]: <Table length=5>
```

```
  beta0      W
  float64    float64
-----
```

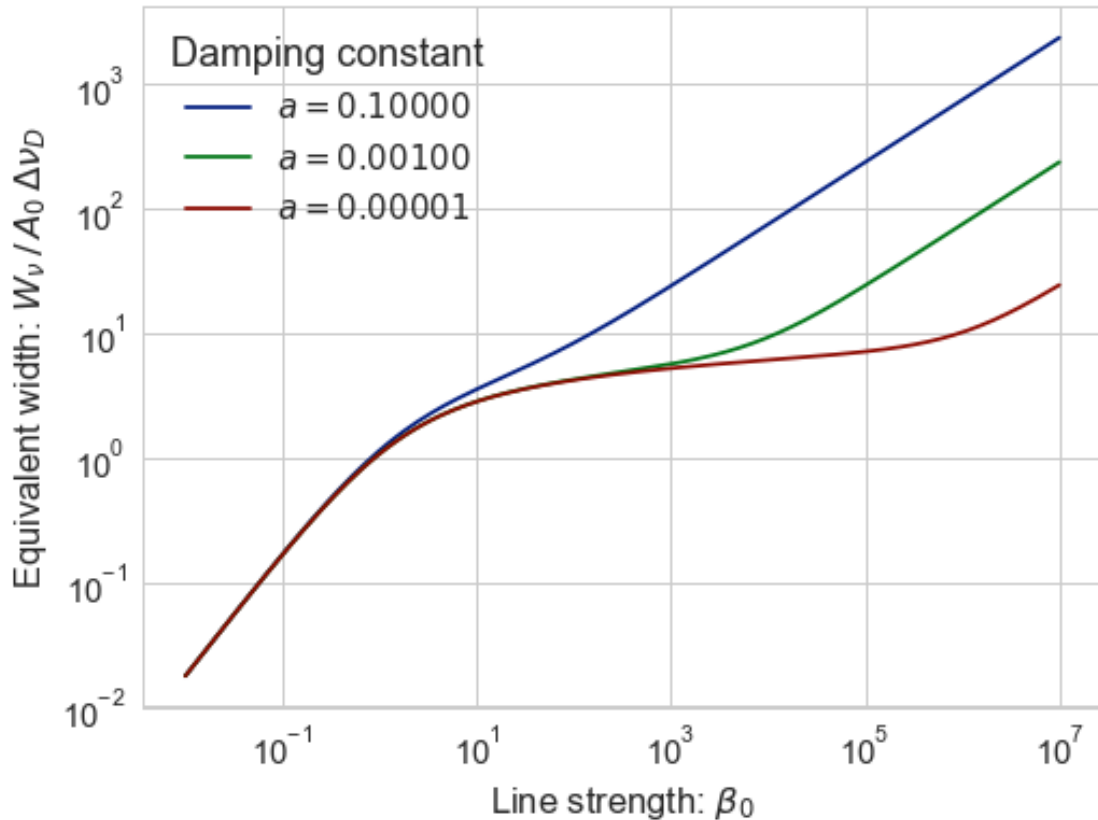
0.1	0.0828358366521
1.0	0.53645721327
100.0	2.12332875198
10000.0	4.62122393783
1000000.0	37.3704253675

That seems to work.

## 1.4 The curve of growth

This is just a plot of  $W_\nu(\beta_0) / (A_0 \Delta \nu_D)$ .

```
In [25]: bgrid = np.logspace(-2.0, 7.0, 200)
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
for a in 1e-1, 1e-3, 1e-5:
    label = f"$a = {a:.5f}$"
    wgrid = np.array([W(a, b, A0)/A0 for b in bgrid])
    ax.plot(bgrid, wgrid, label=label)
ax.legend(title="Damping constant")
ax.set(
    xscale="log", yscale="log",
    xlabel=r"Line strength: $\beta_0$",
    ylabel=r"Equivalent width: $W_\nu \backslash, / \backslash, A_0 \backslash, \Delta \nu_D$"
)
None
```



So, we can clearly see the three regimes: linear, saturated, and damping (square-root).