

Informatics for Astronomers - WS2021

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Exercise sheet 10 - Astropy & GTK

The following will be also part of the assessment:

(1) Try to present exercises in a way that everyone can understand (even those who didn't do the exercises), so please explain the vital parts of your solution in a clear way.

(2) Try to also include some background information where applicable, and/or explain the possible context/motivation for the given exercise.

1. Smooth the image `MACSJ0416_HAWKI.fits`, `scipy.ndimage.gaussian_filter` using a kernel size of your preference (please explore!). Subtract the smoothed image from the original one.

Save the smoothed *and* subtracted images in `fits` format (using `astropy`) and display them with with e.g. `ginga` (or `ds9`).

2. Take the image `MACSJ0416_HAWKI.fits`. Now, store the coordinates and pixel value in a list, array or table. Replace all pixels in a box of 20×20 pixels around that pixel with the median value of the image. Find the next pixel with the maximum value and repeat the process iteratively (let's say a 100 times). Save the results in an `astropy.table.Table`.

What are we doing here? Draw circles on the original image around these positions

3. In Exercise 9, question 5 you were asked to go to the SDSS SkyServer at <http://skyserver.sdss.org/dr15/en/tools/search/radial.aspx> and search for objects around a position on the sky, setting the search radius to 30 arcmin. Download the data, setting the number to output rows to "max" (=0) so all objects are returned.

Load the data with `astropy.table.Table` (XML, CSV, VOTable and FITS formats should be supported) and create the following plots.

- an histogram of the object magnitudes (in 0.5 mag bins). Try setting the y-axis to linear and then switch to logarithmic.
- a plot of the magnitude (any of them) vs their errors.

What can we say about the survey characteristics from these plots?

4. The file `SDSS_spec_galaxy.csv` contains the spectrum of a star forming galaxy taken as part of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey. Load the spectrum with `astropy` and make a plot with `matplotlib`.

Knowing that the $H\alpha$ line at $\lambda = 6562.8$ Angstrom (restframe) is the most intense line in this spectrum, please determine the redshift of this galaxy.

5. Fit Gaussians profiles to the H α ($\lambda=6562.8$ A) and to the [OIII] ($\lambda=5007$ A) lines in the spectrum `SDSS_spec_galaxy.csv` and overplot the fits. You might need to subtract the spectral continuum to make the fitting to work.
- What is the flux of these lines?
 - What is the `sigma` in Angstrom of these lines?
 - Transform these `sigma` to the velocity dispersion in km/s.
6. Design a simple calculator with python GTK (instructions for installing GTK are below). The calculator should have an entry field and buttons for the numbers 0-9 and the operations add, subtract, multiply, and divide, as well as a result button. Use the `GtkEntry` and `GtkGrid` (or `GtkTable`) widgets for the entry field and buttons, respectively. The calculator does not need to work yet.

GTK can be installed with conda using the following commands:

```
conda install pycairo=1.18.2
conda install -c conda-forge pygobject
conda install -c conda-forge gtk3
```

To avoid conflicts, you can first create a new conda environment:

```
conda create --name=myenv python=3.8
conda activate myenv
```