

ISP220 Addition to Homework #10

This will be added to the MasteringAstronomy score in the set due on April 1 and is worth 15 points.

Due in class April 4 , 2017

Refer to the slides from March 23 and the in-class calculation.

Figure 1 shows the optical spectrum from a quasar affectionately called 1044-0125 discovered by the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) telescope at Apache Point, Arizona in 2000. The vertical axis is a measure of intensity and isn't important: stronger is higher. The horizontal axis is the wavelength measured by their spectrograph and is in units of Angstroms, \AA . Perhaps you remember that $1\text{\AA} = 10^{-10}\text{m}$. You can see a handful of elements: *emission* (a line or prominence up) like Hydrogen (L indicates the "Lyman" band of hydrogen), Oxygen, O, and Silicon, Si; and *absorption* (dips), like Magnesium, Mg.

The most prominent is one of the tell-tale signatures of the element Hydrogen: its so-called Lyman α emission line. You're going to analyze this spectrum and learn about the history of this quasar. You'll hand in the next page.

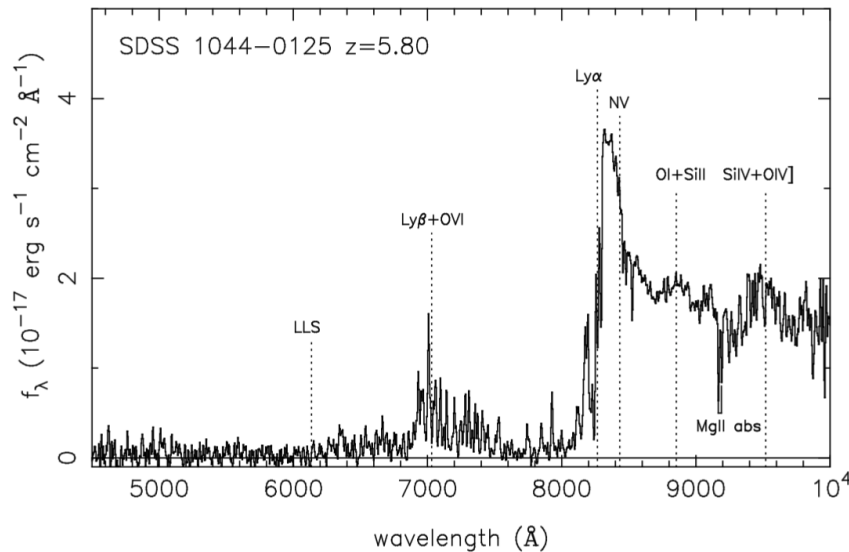


Figure 2. Optical spectrum of SDSS 1044-0125 observed with KeckII/ESI. The total exposure time is 3600s. The spectrum is smoothed to $4\text{\AA}/\text{pixel}$. The spectral resolution is $\sim 8\text{\AA}$ at $\lambda = 9000\text{\AA}$.

Figure 1: Quasar 1044-0125 from <https://arxiv.org/pdf/astro-ph/0005414.pdf>

Your Name: _____

(1 pt) Look up lab value for the Lyman α wavelength and write it here (Wikipedia is fine):

Laboratory Lyman alpha wavelength, $\lambda_e =$ _____ Å (it should be around 1200 Å)

(2 pts) Estimate the red-shifted Lyman α line from the SDSS spectrum and write it here (notice that the dashed line is not on the peak directly...use the dashed line mark):

SDSS measured Lyman alpha wavelength $\lambda_o =$ _____ Å

What is the formula for the red shift In terms of the wavelengths, λ_e and λ_o ?

(1 pts) _____ = _____

(2 pts) Calculate the red shift: $z =$ _____

Remember: the ratio of wavelengths is related to the stretch of space since the emission.

(2 pts) By what factor was the universe smaller when 1044-0125 emitted its light? _____

Go to <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/Astro/redshf.html> and find the blank fields under "Measured Red Shifts" for red shift and speed. Type in your calculated red shift, hit return, and up will pop the recession speed as a function of the speed of light. Write β and v in m/s here:

(2 pts) $\beta =$ _____ (2 pts) $v =$ _____ m/s

Now use Hubble's Law and Hubble's Constant from the banner in the lecture slides to estimate how far away 1044-0125 was when it emitted its light.

(3 pts) $r =$ _____ m. (do your work below) For 2 points extra, how many Billion light years is this? <http://www.metric-conversions.org/length/meters-to-lightyears.htm>