

Spectroscopy for the Amateur Astrophotographer

Robert J. Vanderbei

2018 Sept 11

Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton
Peyton Hall

<http://www.princeton.edu/~rvdb>

Stars Have Various Colors

Here's a pair of binary stars...

Albireo...



€-Bootes...



The Coathanger asterism...



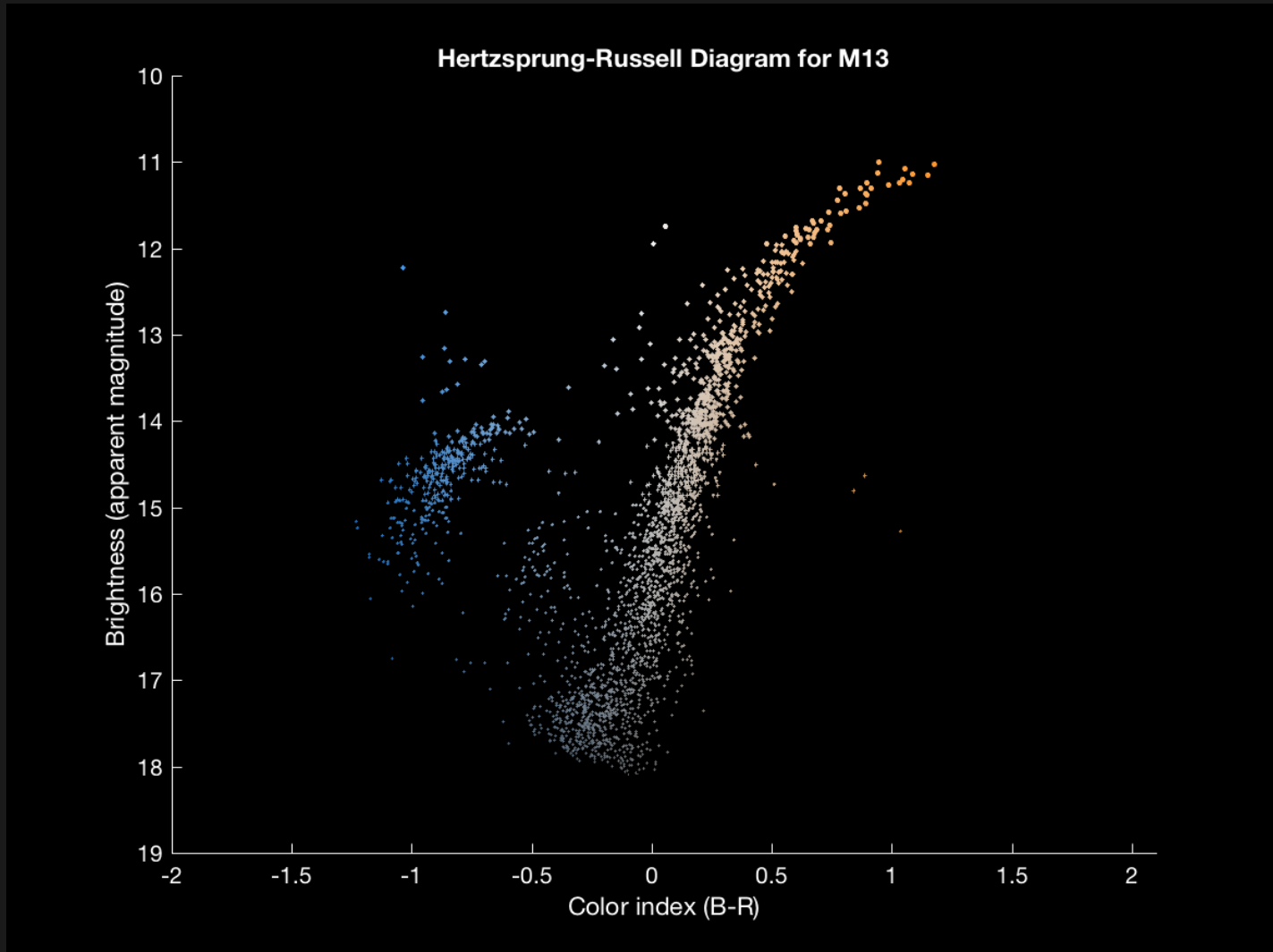
Open Cluster NGC 7789...



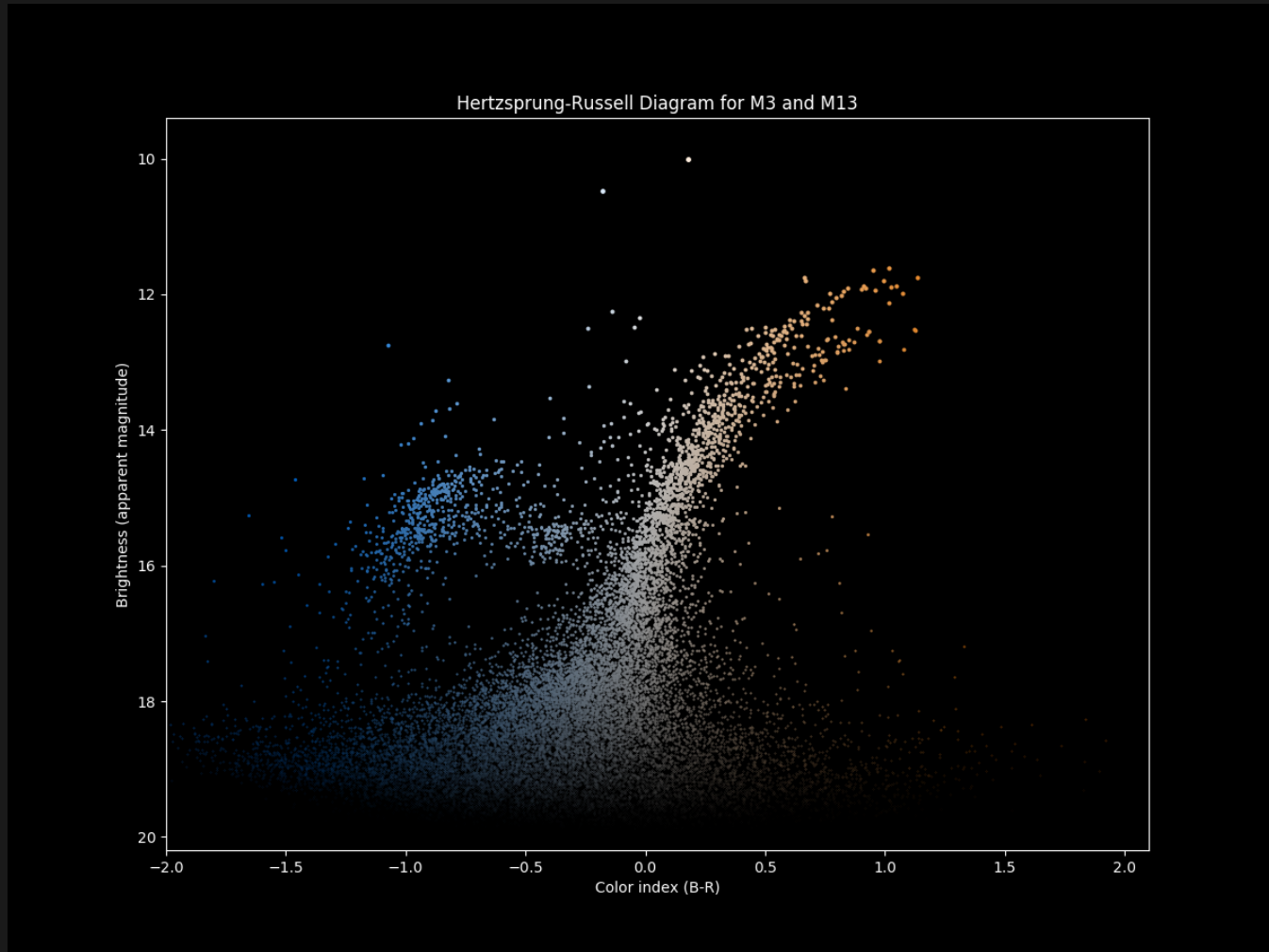
Globular Cluster M13...



Hertzprung-Russell Diagram for M13

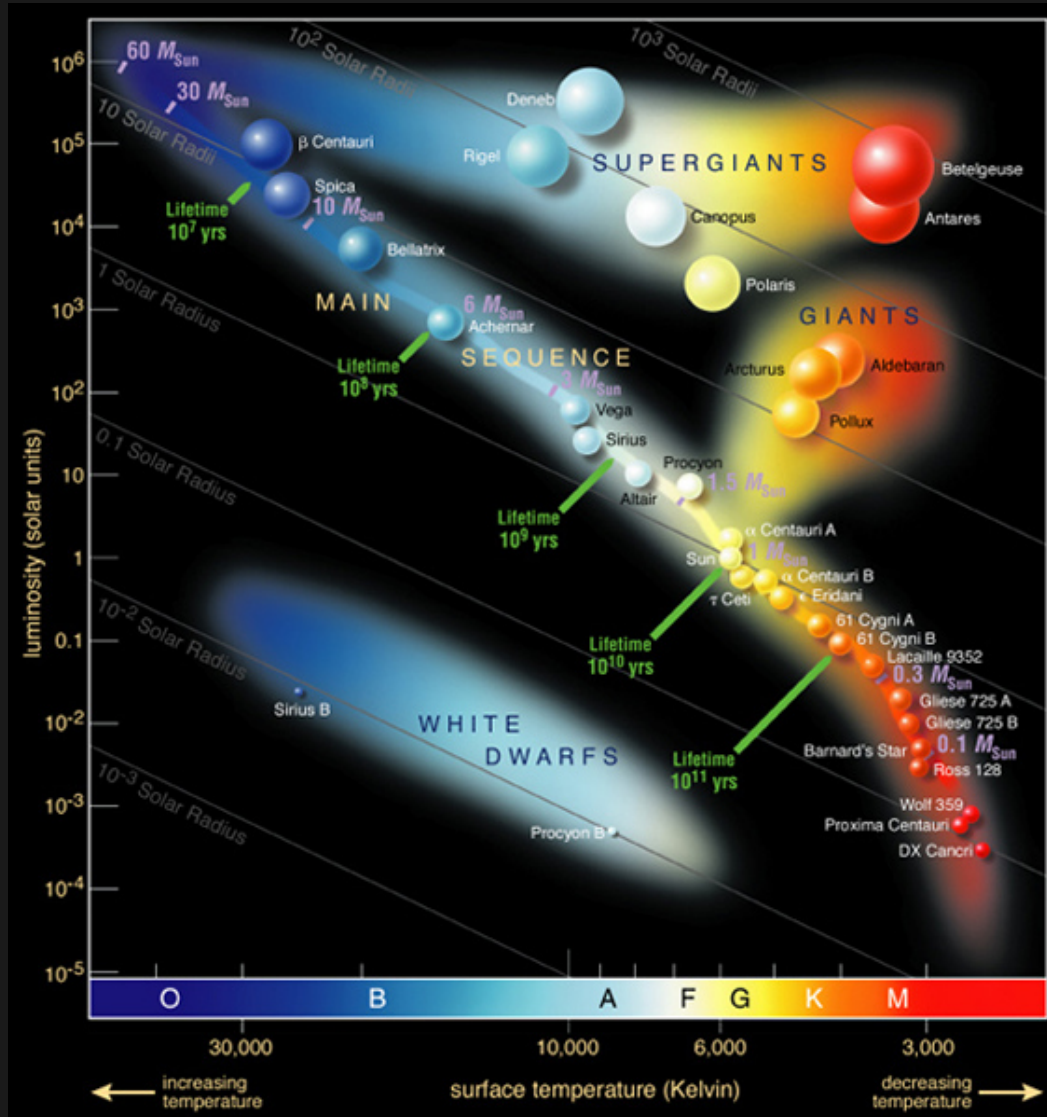


M3/M13 Comparison

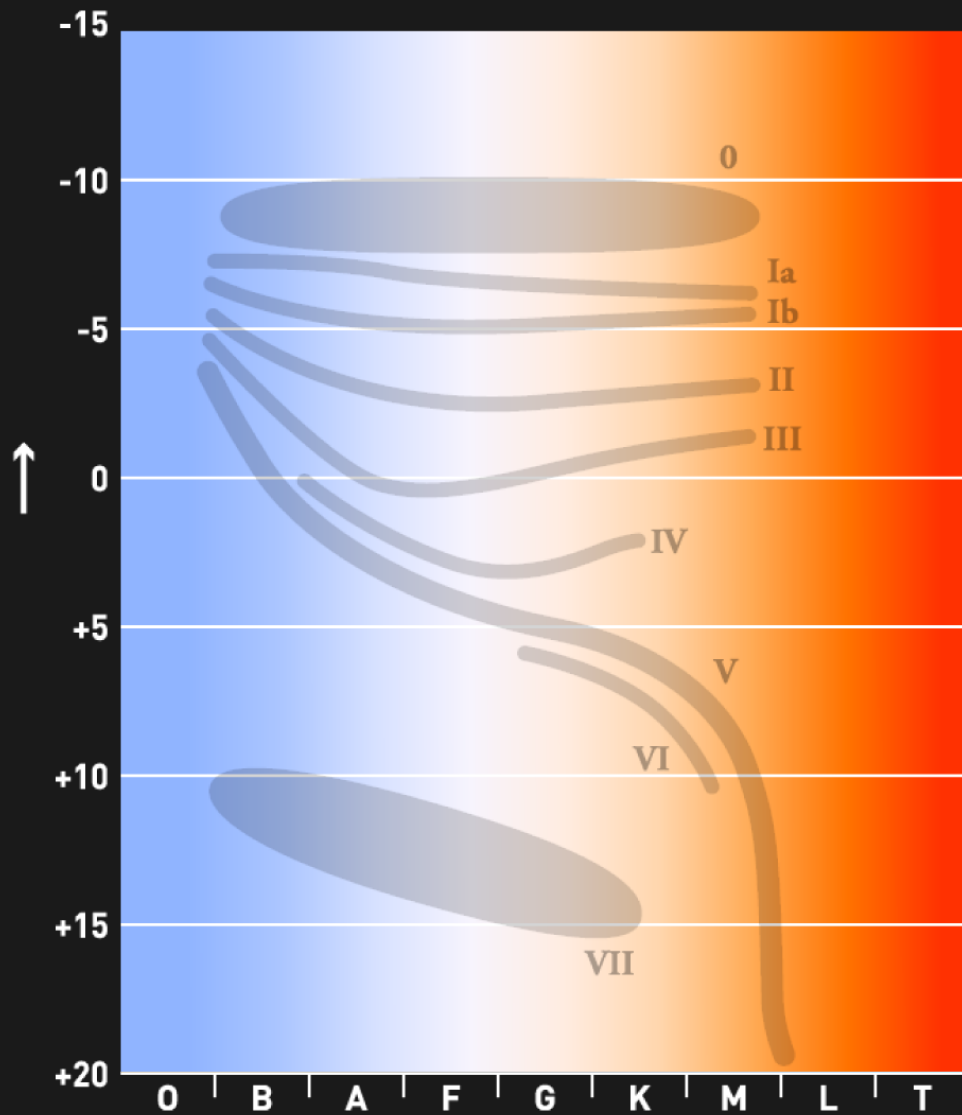


Brightness difference = 0.7 mag. Hence, relative distance... M3 is 1.38 times further away.

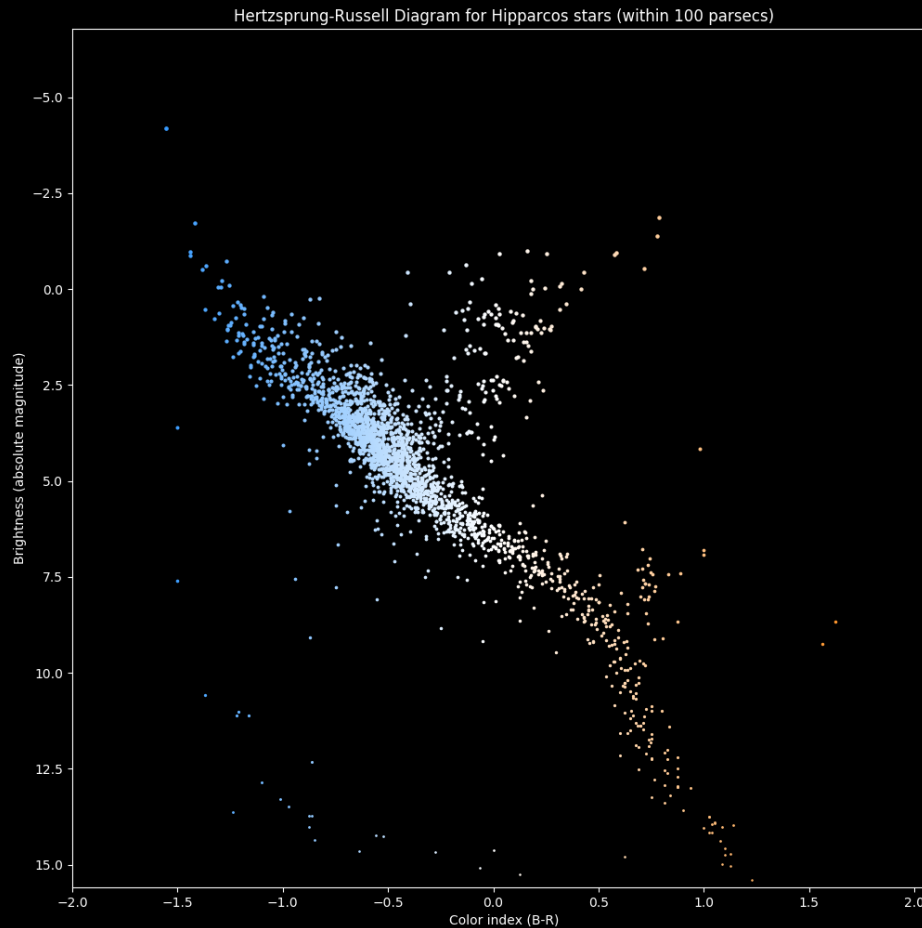
Hertzsprung-Russell Diagrams



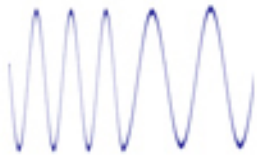
Hertzsprung-Russell Diagrams



HR Diagram of Hipparcos Catalogue Stars



Red Orange Yellow Green Blue Indigo Violet

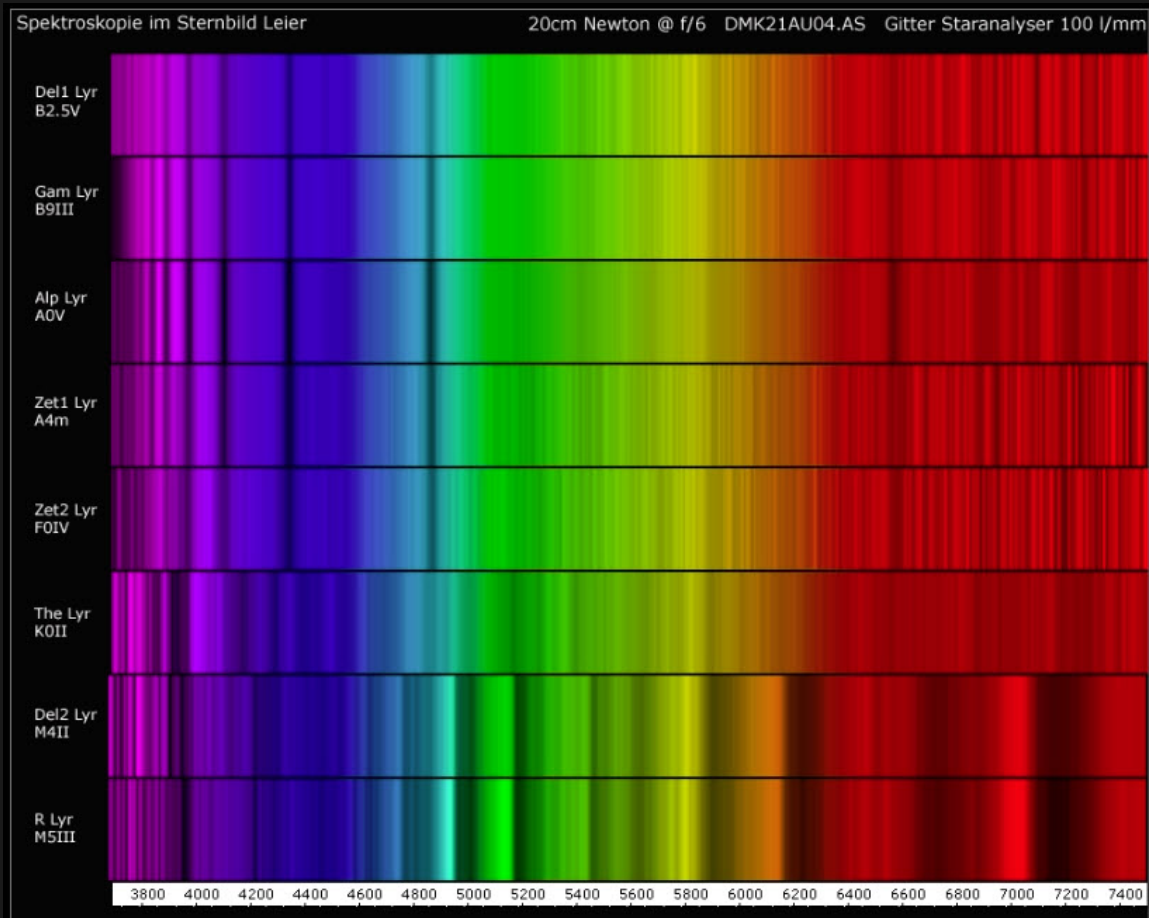


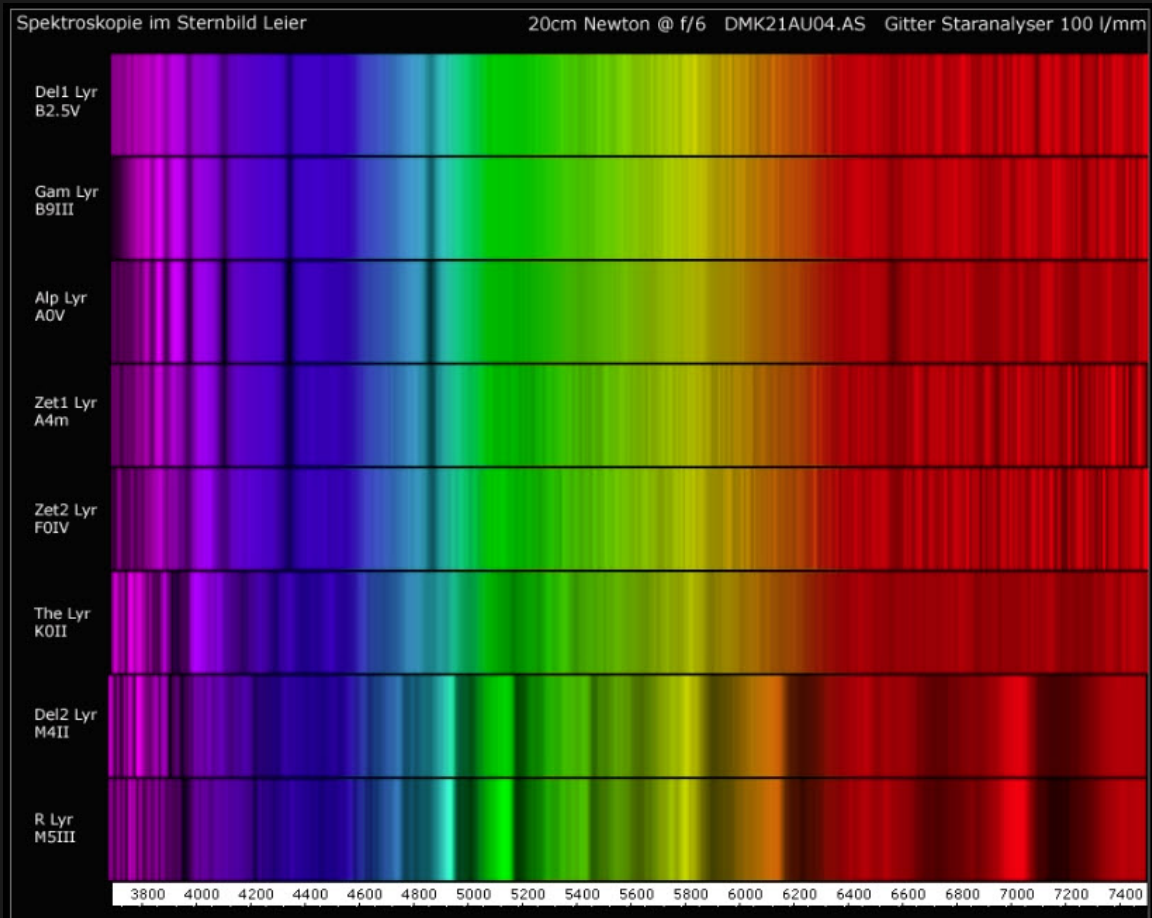
high frequency

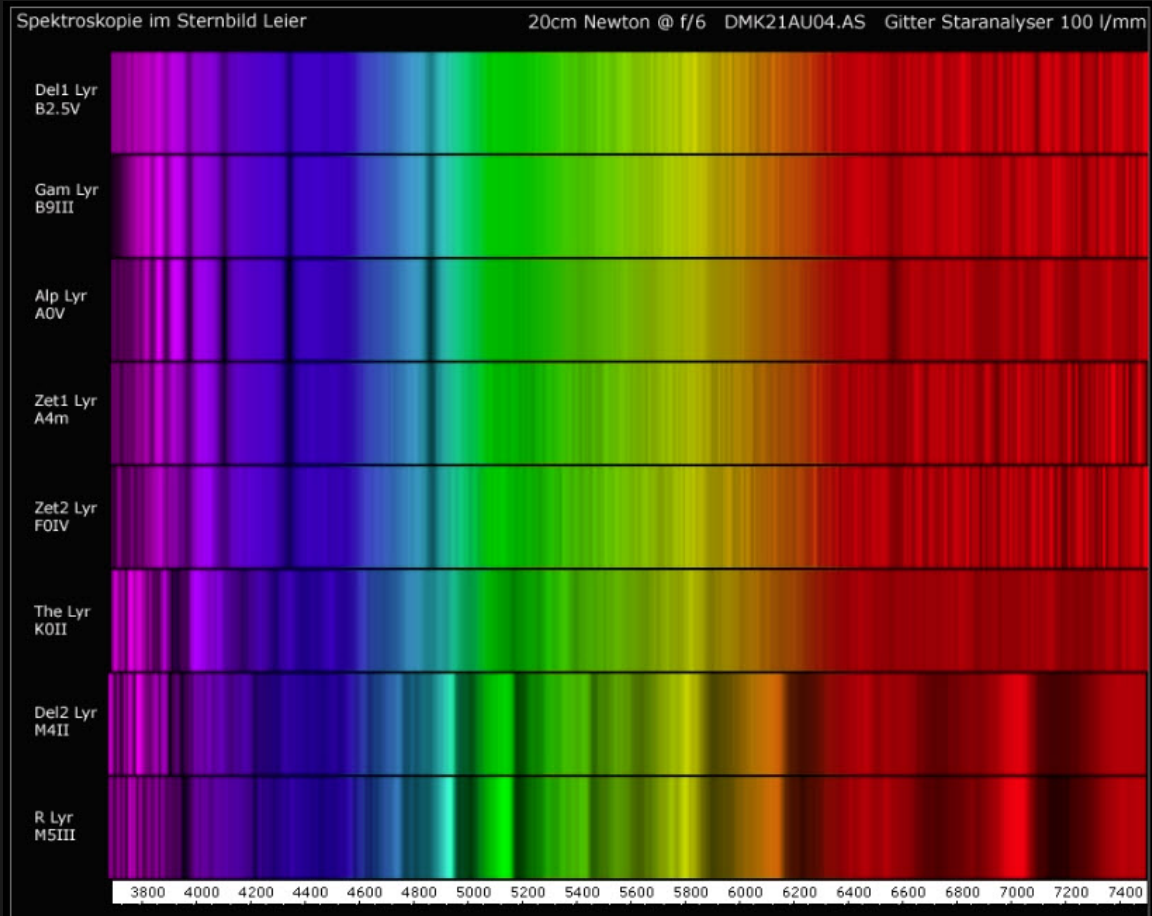


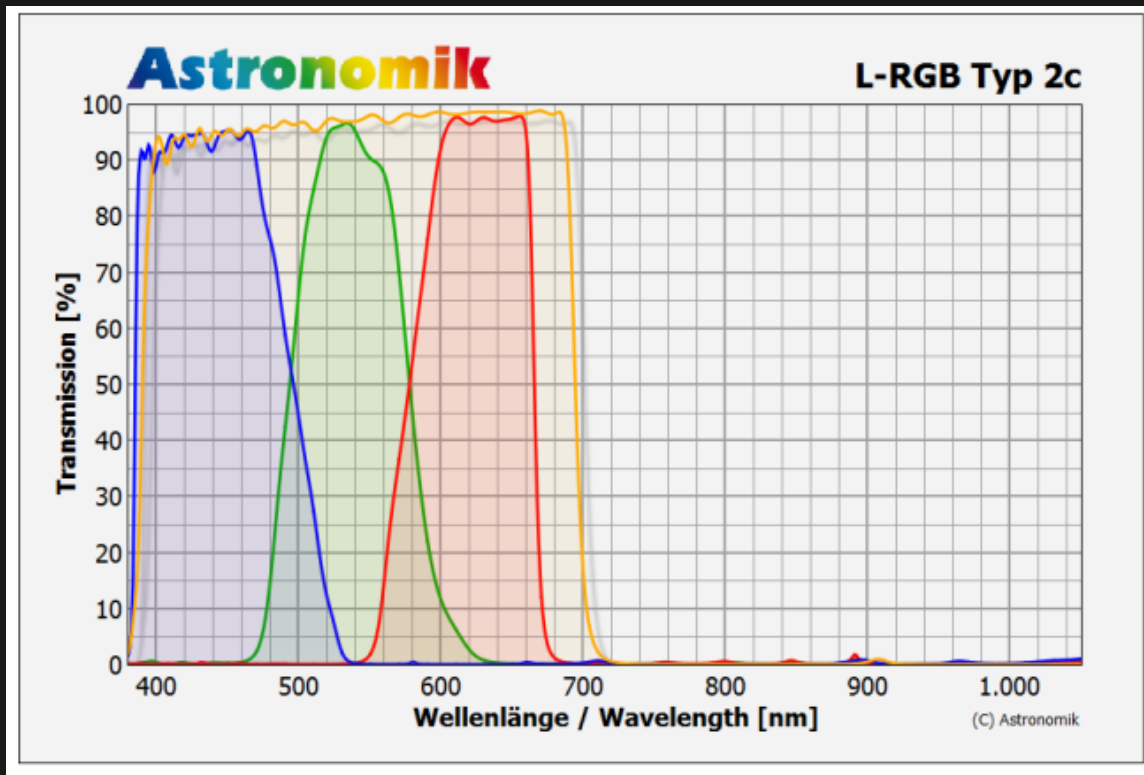
low frequency

O B A F G K M

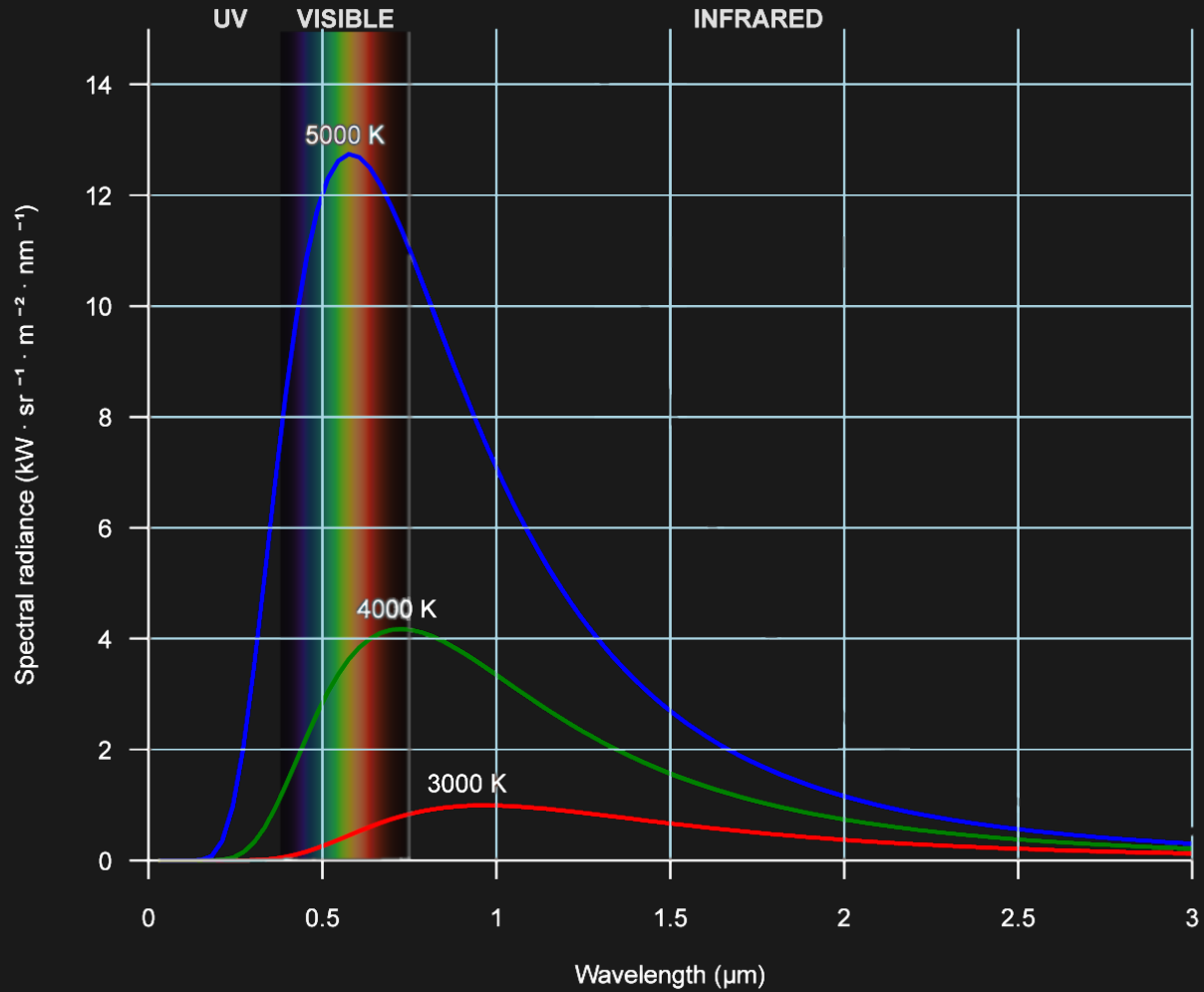




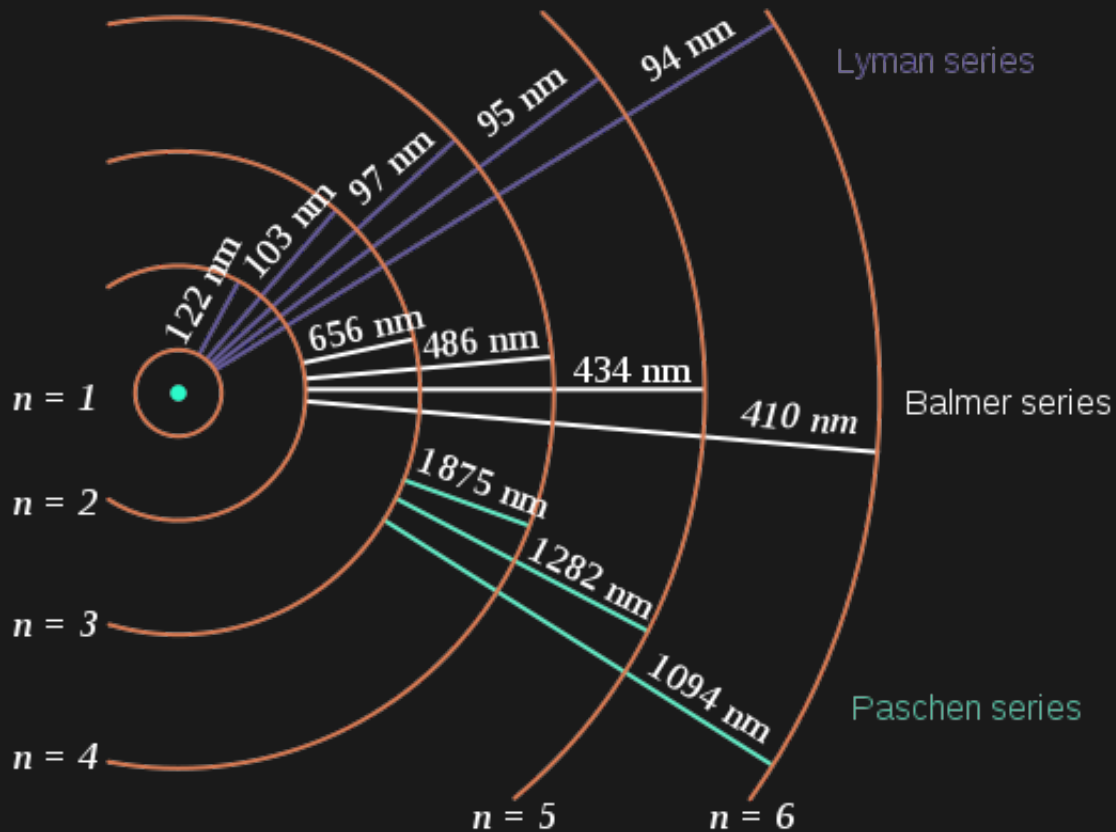




Black-body Radiation



Quantum Mechanics



Energy Levels

Energy E is inversely proportional to wavelength λ :

$$E = \frac{a}{\lambda}$$

From the diagram we see that

$$E_2 - E_1 = \frac{a}{122}$$

$$E_3 - E_2 = \frac{a}{656}$$

And so we can calculate

$$E_3 - E_1 = (E_3 - E_2) + (E_2 - E_1)$$

$$= \frac{a}{656} + \frac{a}{122}$$

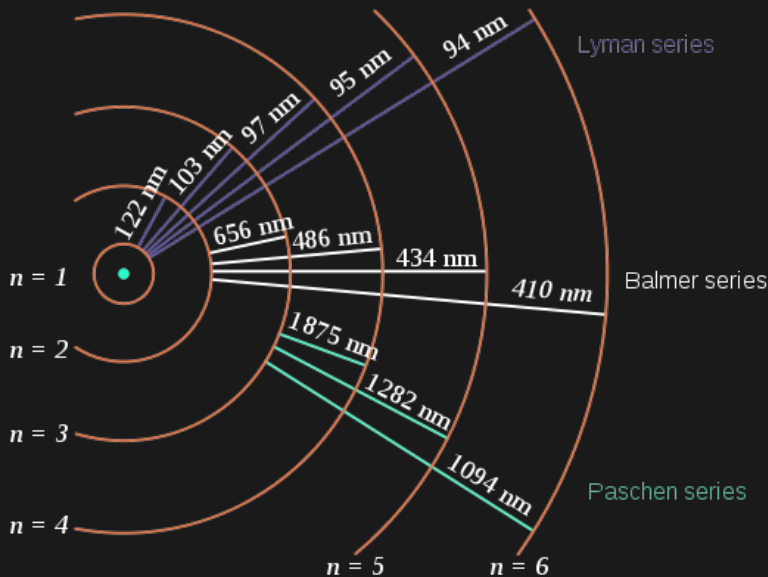
$$= a \frac{122 + 656}{122 * 656}$$

$$= \frac{a}{102.9}$$

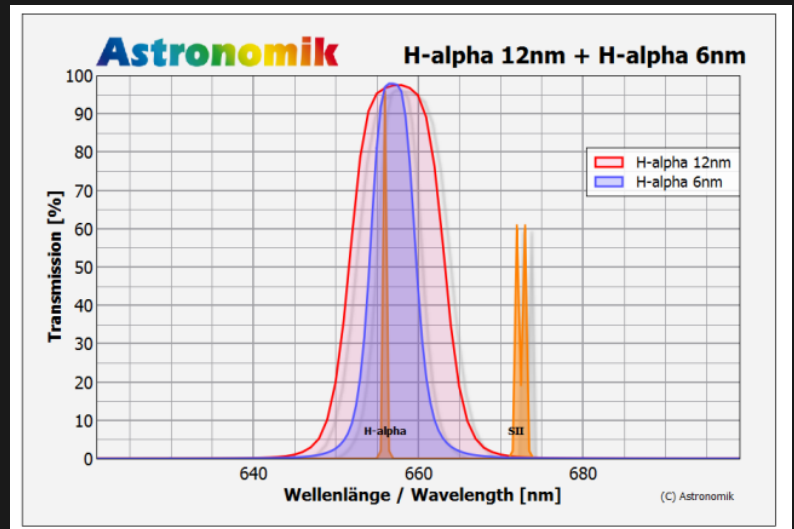
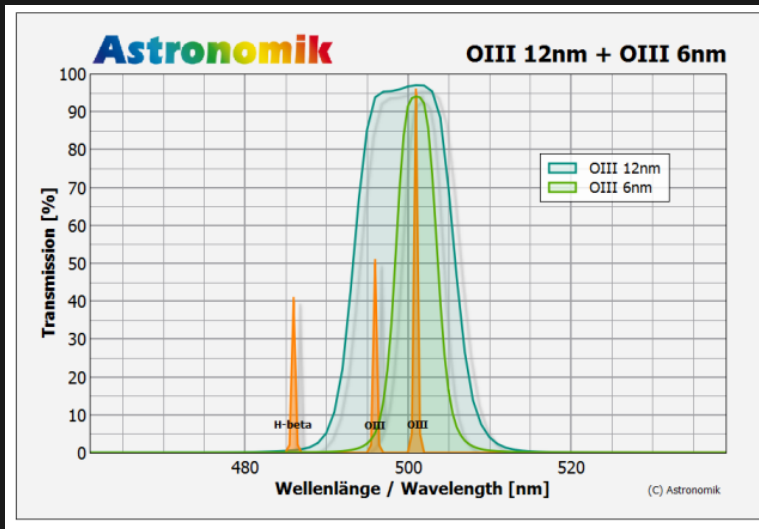
$$\approx \frac{a}{103}$$

NOTE: Energy is also inversely proportional to n^2 :

$$E_n = -\frac{b}{n^2}$$



H α , O-III



Diffraction Grating

I recently bought a *Star Analyser 100* diffraction grating from *RSpec Astro*:



Albireo

Linear



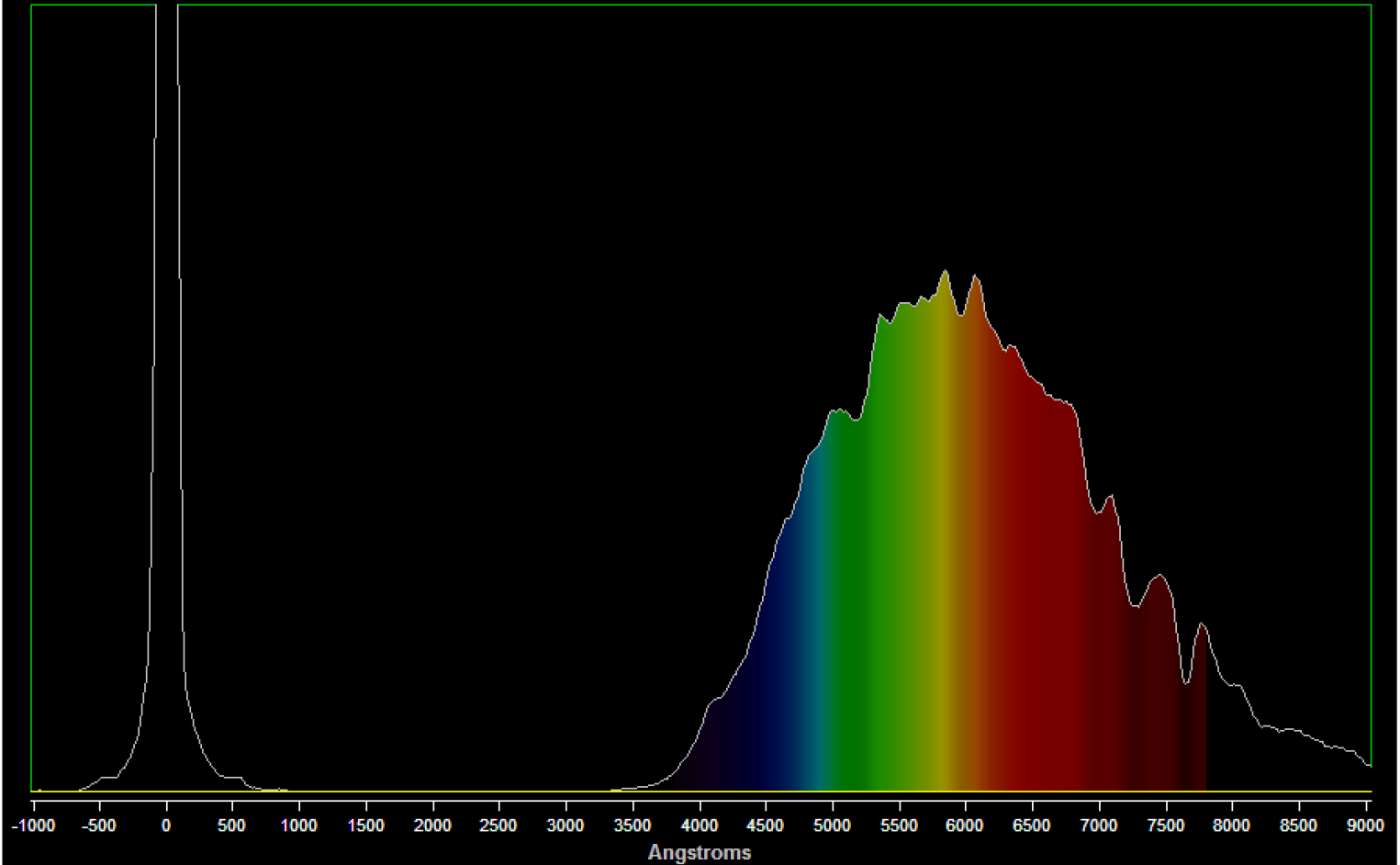
Gamma



Albireo A

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

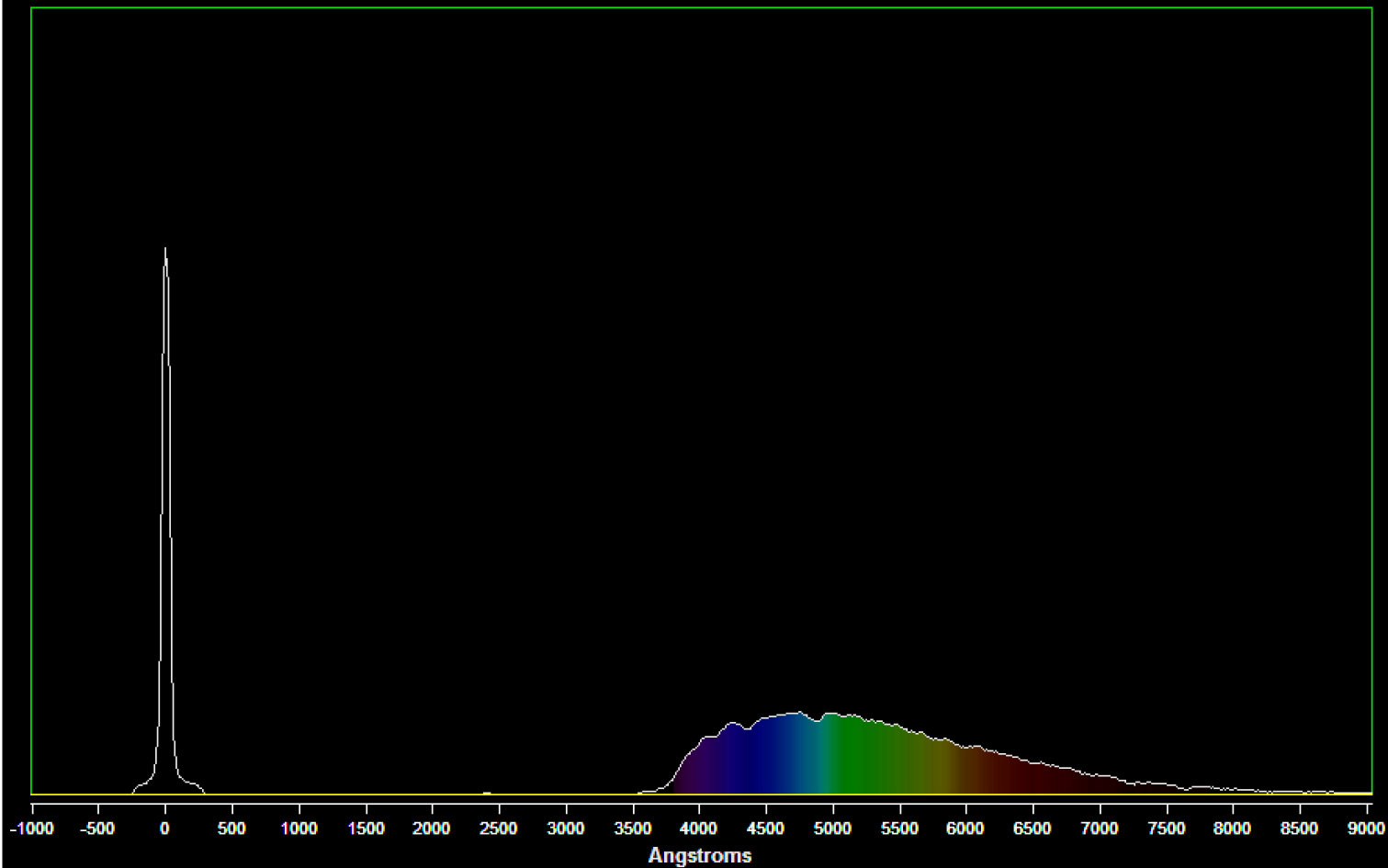
Albireo A



Albireo B

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

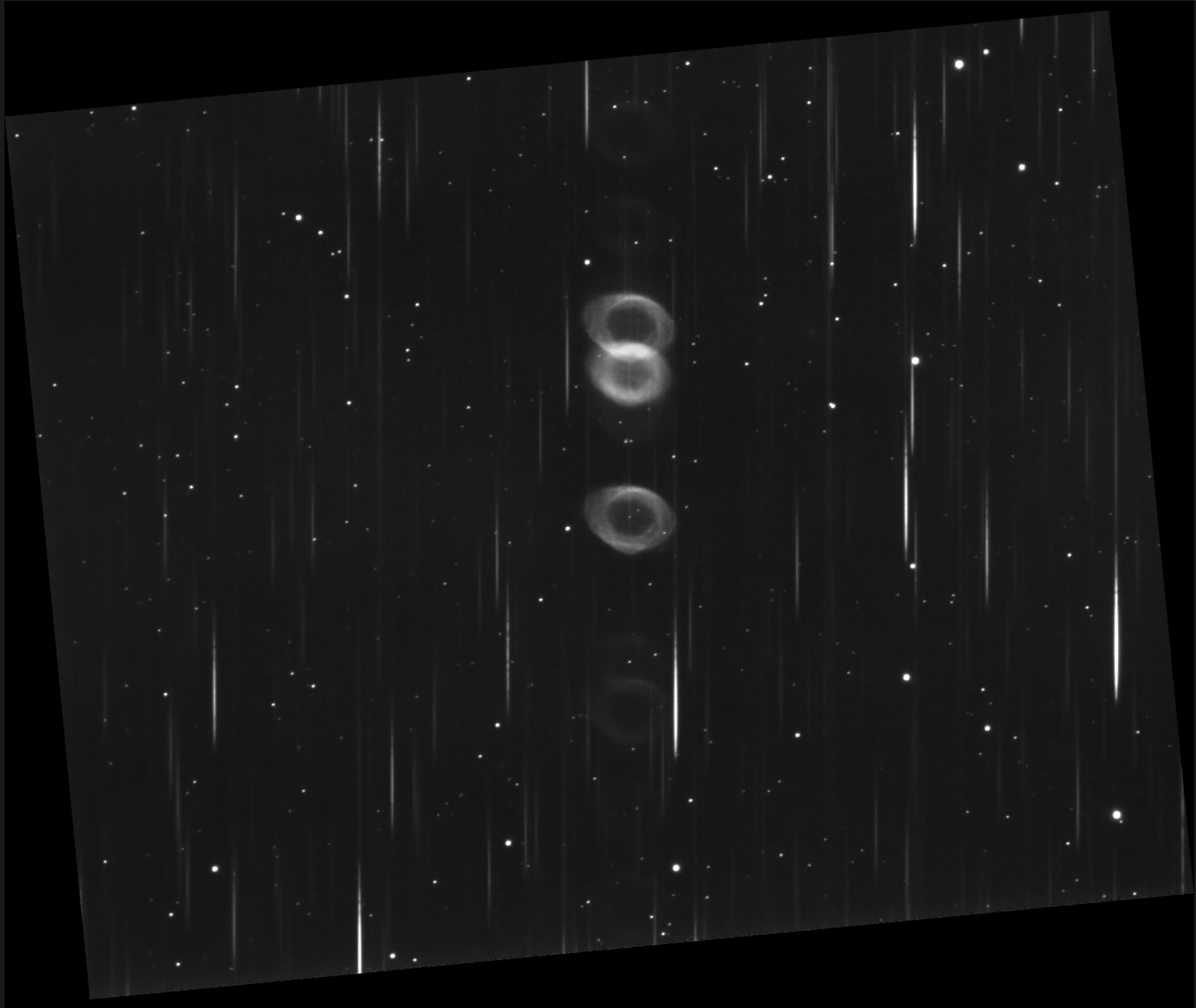
Albireo B



The Ring Nebula

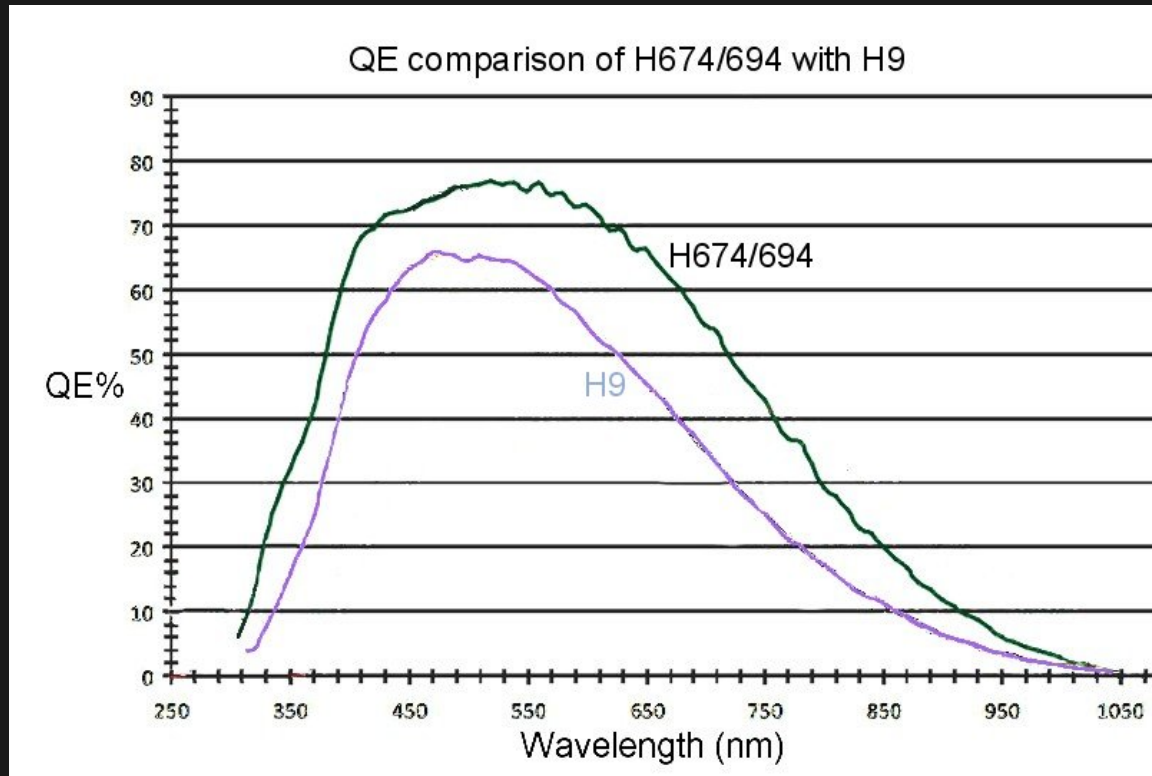


The Ring Nebula



Camera Response Curve

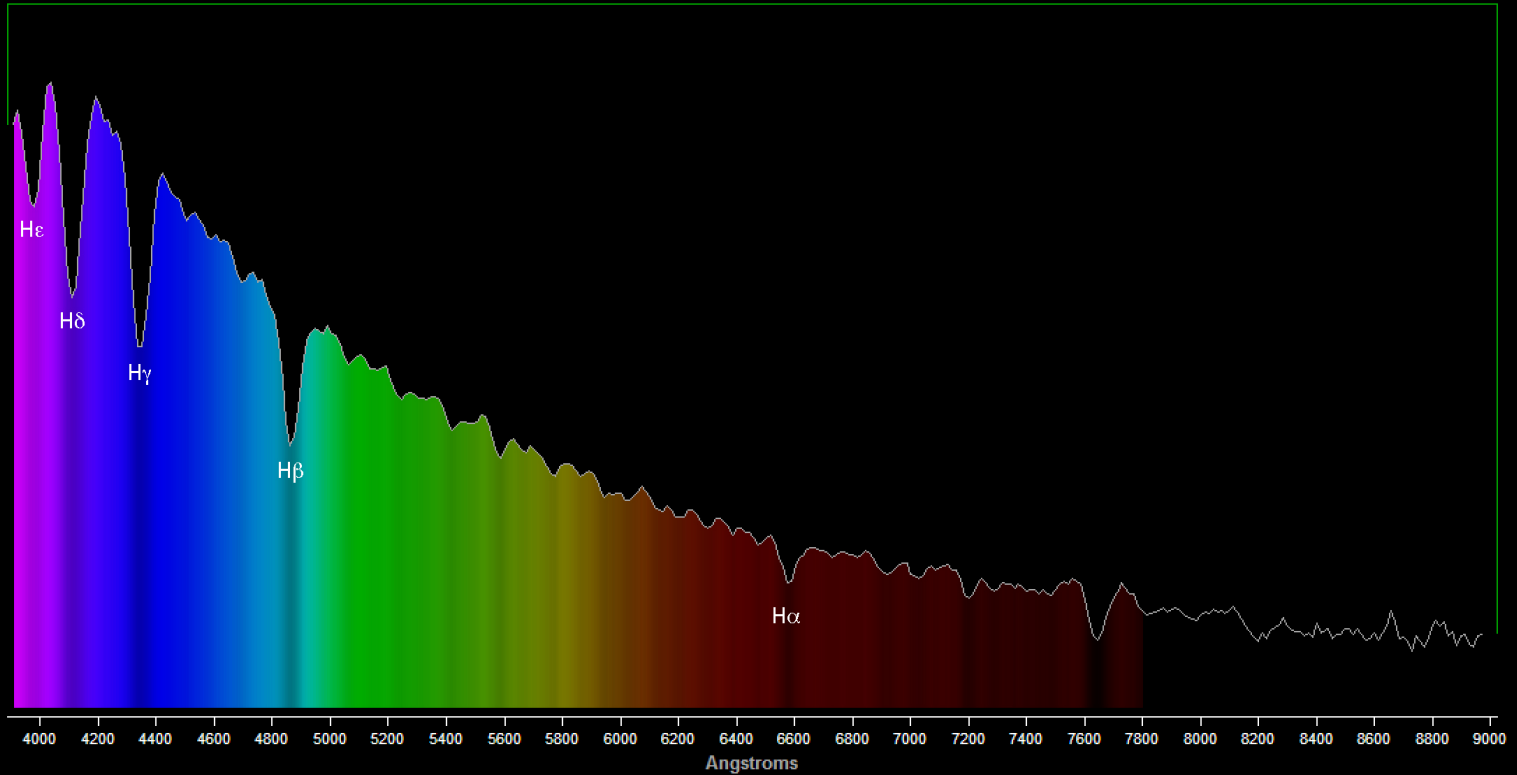
The RSpec software can automatically correct for the nonuniformity of a camera's sensitivity.



Vega

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

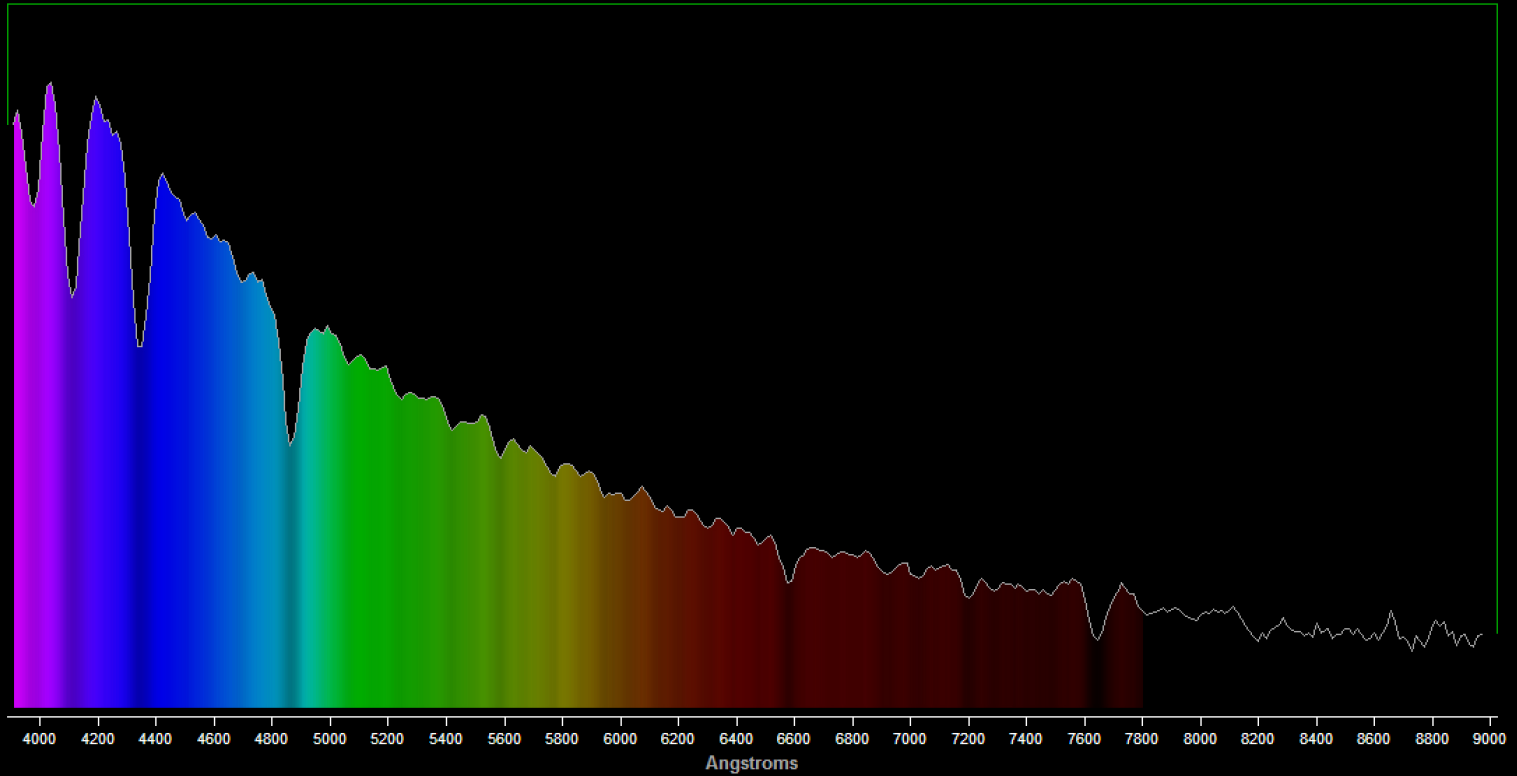
Vega



Vega

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

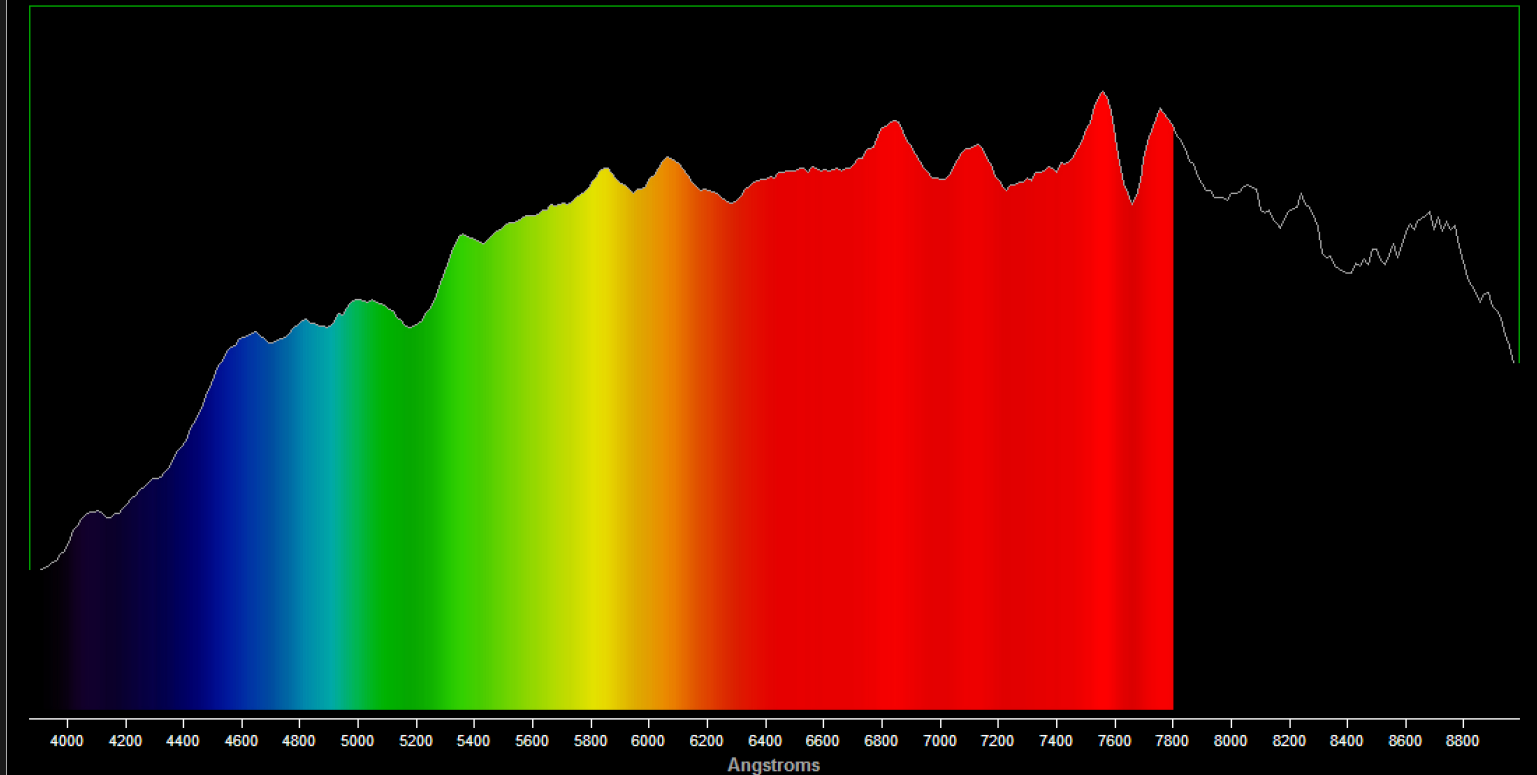
Vega



Albireo A

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

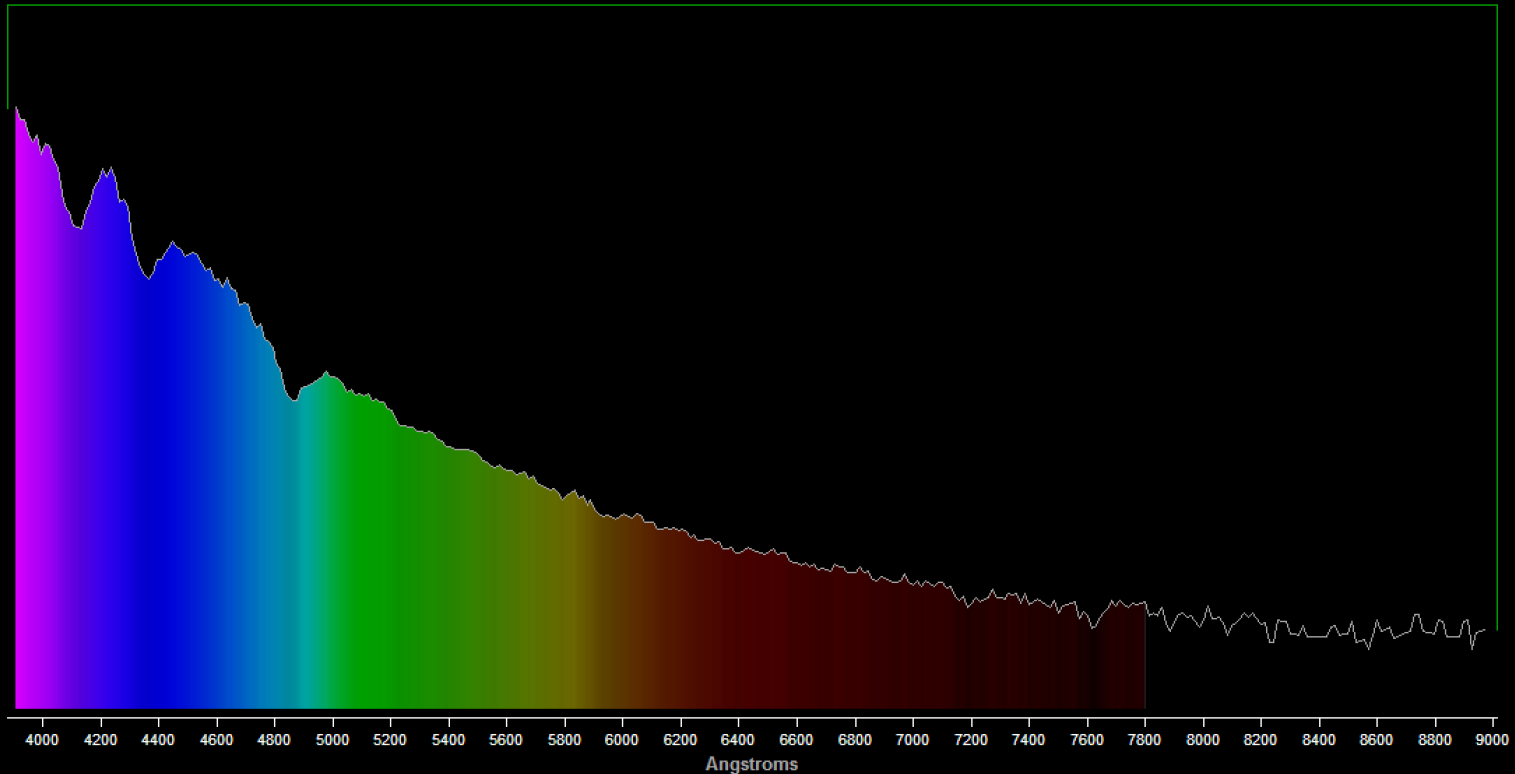
Albireo-A



Albireo B

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

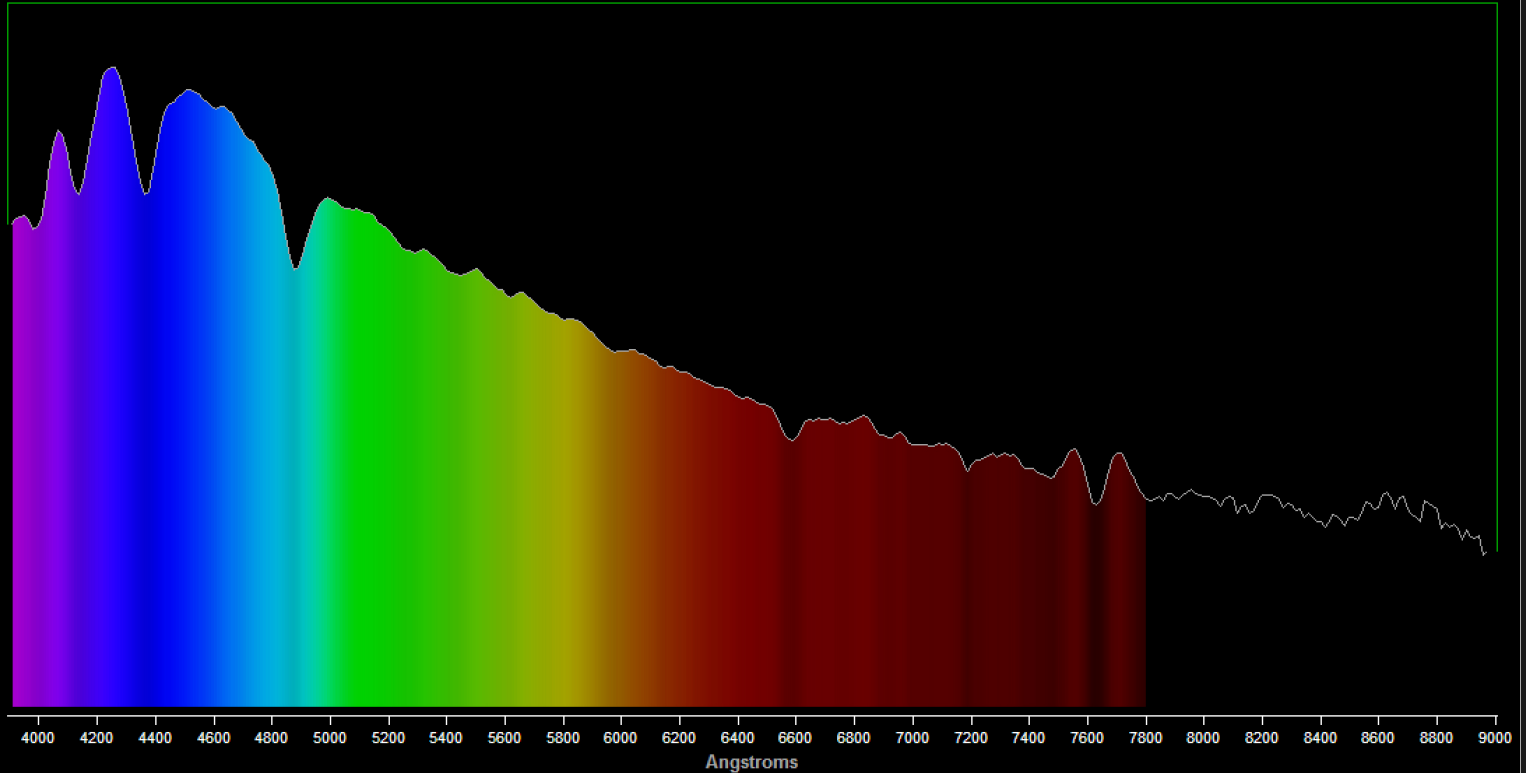
Albireo-B



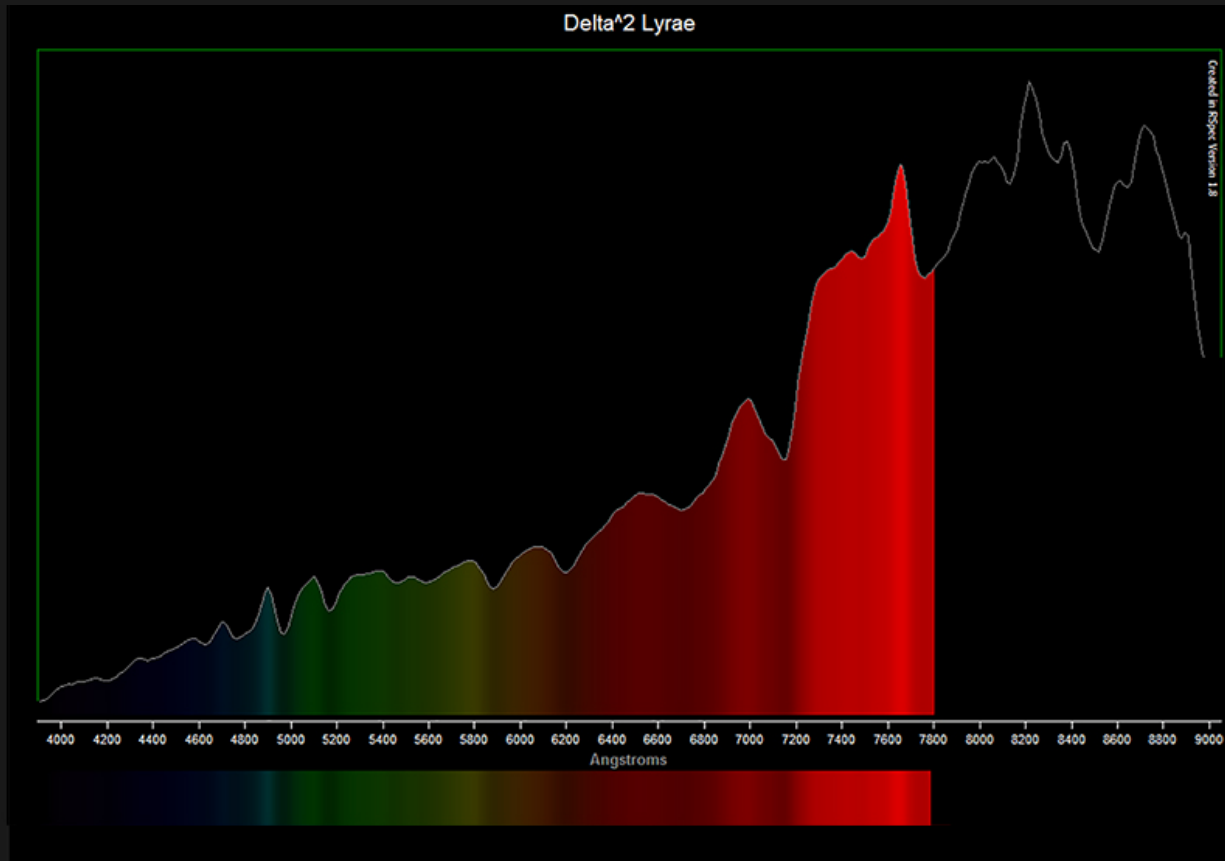
Altair

Angstroms/Pixel: 14.3

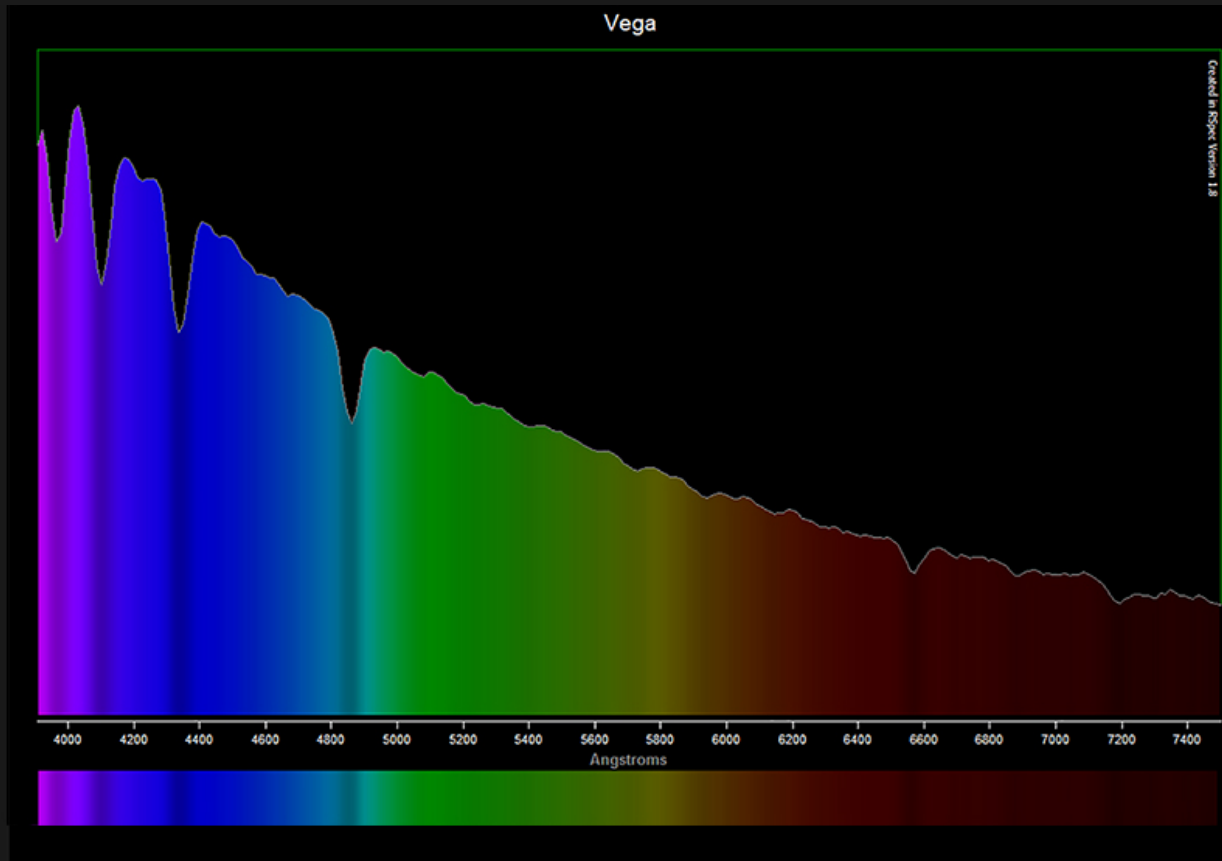
Altair



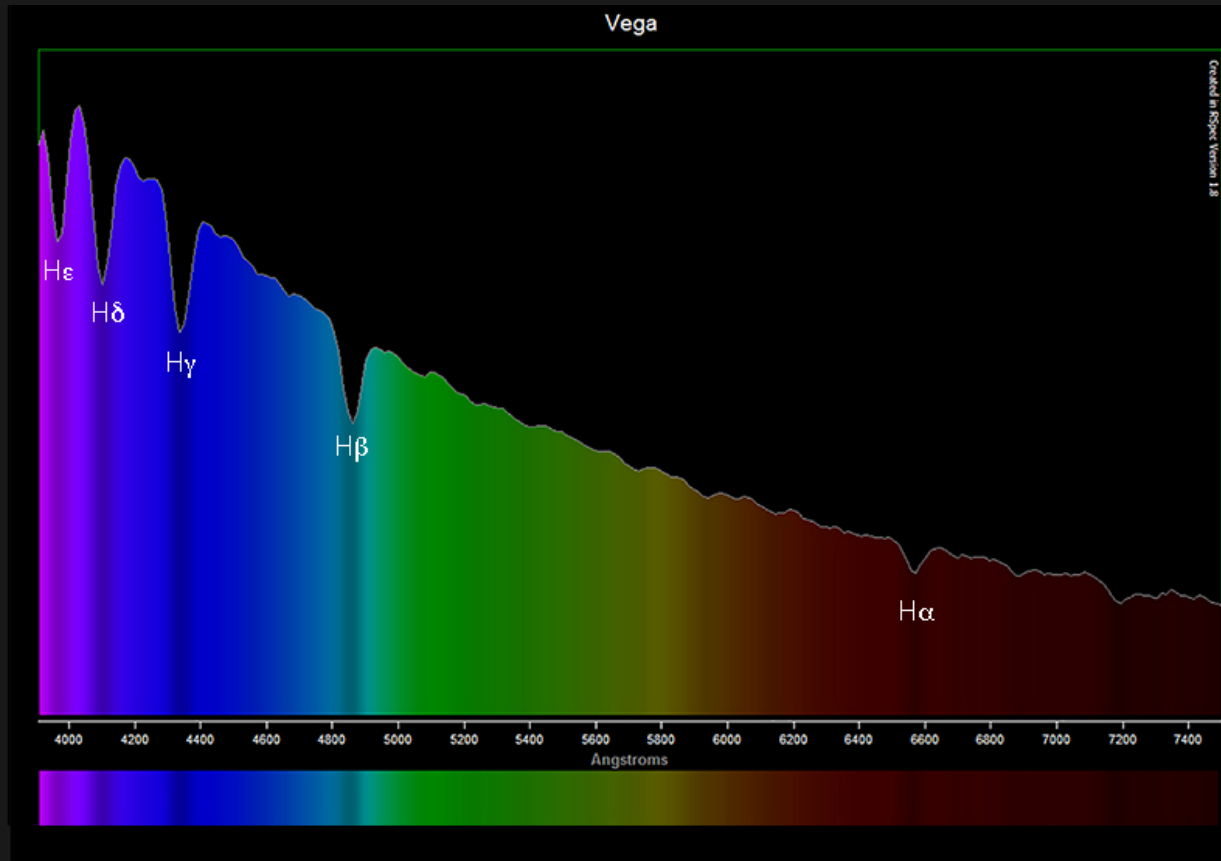
δ^2 -Lyrae



Vega Again



Vega Again



Quasar Redshift

Quasar Markarian 501



Quasar Markarian 501 Spectrum

