

Interop Sep 2007

Photometry Data Model

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Photometry model

- Spectrum model doesn't support data in magnitudes well
 - Need zero point to convert to fluxes
 - Need transmission curve to do color corrections
 - Otherwise, all the same metadata
 - Can consider photometry data as 1-point spectrum
- Complication: color data
 - What if have B-V only?
 - Even if have V and B-V, don't convert to V,B since systematic error on B-V is much smaller
 - Often have a set of filters taken at once.. or at least one right after the other, with some common metadata. Is the right model a 'photometry set' with either e.g. U B V R I or V B-V V-R R-I U-B and say that a single value, B, is a special case of such a set?

Commonalities with Spectrum

- Carry over Spectrum model as base:
 - Curation, DataID with observational data
 - Spectral Coordinate, Bin hi/lo (as extent of band)
 - Flux (with errors, etc)
 - Characterization (Spectral, Time, Spatial, Flux)

Zero point model

- Suitable metadata
 - Flux in Jy corresponding to reference point for a standard spectrum
 - Flat in nu-Fnu is the most 'agnostic' choice?
 - Vega spectrum not a good global choice (horrible far outside visible range)
 - Can do color corrections via the trans. Curve
 - Reference point: 0 mag if flux in mag; ref value if in other units? e.g. ADU: Value of 50 ADU equals 103.2 mJy, or do we just require the ref point to be 1 in whatever linear units?
 - Name of band (J, SDSS g, IRAS2, etc)
 - Redundant with transmission curve? But, gives extra meaning. Must be optional
 - Controlled vocabulary? (UCDs not the way to go?)
 - Assumed standard spectrum (if not flat)... how to specify?

Transmission curve

- Transmission curve is an instance of Spectrum
- Units are /dimensionless/
- We only need relative transmission as fn of spectral coordinate
- Just need a pointer to current Spectrum model, no further work to do.

Proposed Photometry Utypes

- Photom.Zero.Value Zero point flux value
- Photom.Zero.Unit Unit of zp value (e.g. Jy)
- Photom.Zero.Ref Magnitude or scale value that zero point corresponds to (default 0 mag)
- Photom.BandName Optional name of band
- Photom.Zero.RefSpectrum Assumed spectrum for zero point (default: flat in nu-Fnu)
- Photom.TransCurve Pointer to trans curve Spectrum (ivo:// or internal reference – how?)
 - Plus, all the Spectrum utypes

But where does it fit?

- Extend Characterization model by adding Photom entries in CharacterizationAxis for Flux?
 - Most natural choice... but then we have to change Char model rather than just extend Spectrum
- Keep as separate lump in Spectrum top level?