

August 1, 1985

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IUE Regional Data Analysis Facilities  
Bulletin No. 4

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1) General Announcements

**Software Exchange:** After more than 7 years of IUE operation a large amount of software must exist for analyzing IUE data. Institutions interested in sharing ideas and/or software are encouraged to contact one of the RDAFs. Software written in FORTRAN or IDL would be particularly useful for implementation at the RDAFs.

**Mailing list for RDAF Users:** A mailing list of previous RDAF users is being prepared which will be used for distributing RDAF manuals and memos that may not be of general interest to IUE users. Mailings will initially be sent to all users of the Goddard RDAF. Anyone wishing to be added or removed from the mailing list should contact a member of the RDAF staff. The first mailing will include the RDAF Remote Users Guide. The recently updated RDAF Tutorial and Reference Manual will be mailed shortly.

**Improved Version of IDL:** Work is continuing on implementing an improved version of PDP IDL. The new version known as DIDL has already been implemented at the Colorado facility and will hopefully be ready at Goddard by the end of the summer. DIDL offers many of the features now available with the VAX version of IDL. The main advantages to RDAF users will be more accurate fitting routines (using double precision variables), expanded plotting capabilities, and the ability to stop and resume terminal sessions without losing intermediate data sets or compiled procedures.

2) News from GSFC

**Staff Changes:** Rosalie Ewald has replaced Bill Hathaway as an RDAF Data Analysis Assistant. Rosalie previously performed data display and data reduction work at the Space Telescope Science Institute and at NRAO. Bill Hathaway has joined the telescope operations staff at the Space Telescope Science Institute.

**Hardware Changes:** Two dial-in ports with 1200 baud modems and call-back authenticators are now available to RDAF remote users. Users calling in with a valid name and password will be automatically called back on a government FTS line. More information on remote usage is available in the RDAF Remote Users Guide mentioned above.

**Software Changes:** The entries below describe the software modifications implemented at Goddard between March 1 and August 1 of this year:

26 March      The standard star library has been updated to include all the images used in the standard star atlas published in IUE Newsletter #22. Approximately 72 spectra were added. See HELP RDAF STANDARD\_STARS for more information.

- 12 APRIL        The IUE Merged Log has been updated. Goddard entries up to 3-15-85 are included.
- 19 APRIL        Experimental versions now exist for the following files:  
 IUEPLOT - lists out aperture type and correct absolute calibration reference.  
 CALIB - uses new absolute calibration function for high dispersion LWR and SWP images processed with new IUESIPS software.  
 CALIB.INF - text file containing actual values used for absolute calibration (currently stored in [210,23]). See IUEPLOT.DOC and CALIB.DOC files in [210,22] for more information.
- 26 APRIL        A new version of ASSESS now exists in [210,21] which allows the proper assessment of recent low dispersion images.
- 08 MAY          A new online HELP file exists for obtaining information on intrinsic IDL commands. To execute, type  
                   IDL>SPAWN,'HELP IDL command  
 where command is either a keyword (listed by typing HELP IDL) or an IDL command.
- 08 MAY          GEX2 and a new version of GEX1 have been added to the experimental library. Used together, they re-extract spectral flux information from the LBLs files by integrating over fitted Gaussian functions. See the DOC files in [210,22] for more information.
- 20 MAY          Two new procedures are available in the experimental library for extracting image processing information from the header label of IUE images. IPDATA extracts the processing scheme name, type of aperture and date of processing. IPINFO uses IPDATA to list out processing information on user's IUE data files. See DOC files for more information.
- 29 MAY          Users wishing to leave online messages for members of the RDAF staff can now use a procedure called MESSAGE. MESSAGE is executed by simply typing (from IDL): .RUN MESSAGE and will send a text file to the staff members account after prompting user for staff member's name, user's name and desired message. See DOC file in [210,22] for more information.
- 06 JUNE         A new procedure called GNORM is now available in the experimental library for normalizing spectra. Various fits to user-specified cursor positions are allowed for specifying the continuum. See the DOC file in [210,22] for more information.
- 07 JUNE         A procedure for displaying pseudo 3-D plots of LBLs files is now available in the experimental Library. The procedure, called LBL, is a modified version of a user-donated routine. See the DOC file in [210,22] for more information.
- 13 JUNE         A routine for extracting and displaying data from the IUE low dispersion UV flux catalogs is now available in the

experimental library. The flux catalogs contain binned fluxes for LWR and SWP images. UVFLUX.PRO will display a table and a plot of the binned fluxes for a given camera and image number. See UVFLUX.DOC in [210,22] for more information.

- 20 JUNE An RDAF version of the procedure BSPOT is now available in the experimental library. BSPOT allows users to add (or remove) flagging of blemishes in an IUE LBLS (ESSR) file. See BSPOT.DOC in [210,22] for more information.
- 24 JUNE New versions of BBDRAW and BSPOT have been added to the experimental library. BBDRAW now outputs the blackbody flux and wavelength arrays, and the flagging of blemishes for images processed with the old SIPS software was improved in BSPOT. See the DOC files for more info.
- 2 JULY New version of FEATURE has been added to the experimental library which prevents the 'SQRT OF A NEGATIVE NUMBER' error.
- 15 JULY An improved version of KURUCZ.PRO is now in the experimental library. If requested, the new version will display the allowed Kurucz model parameters. See [210,22] KURUCZ.DOC for more information.
- 16 JULY A new version of ORDER has been added to the experimental library which allows users to order MELO and LBLS files separately from the Condensed Data Archives. See a member of the RDAF staff for more information.

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