Manual for pgf-spectra 2.2.0

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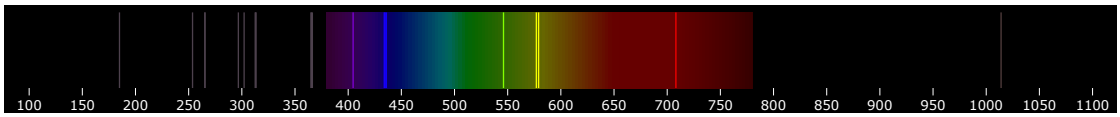


\pgfspectra[element=Hg,axis,axis step=50,begin=100,end=1100,back=visible40,gamma=.6,line width=.5pt]

Abstract

The purpose of this package is to draw the spectrum of elements in a simple way. It's based on the package *pst-spectra*, but with some extra options. It relies on the pgf/TikZ to draw the desired spectrum, continuous or discrete. As in *pst-spectra* there are data available for the spectra of 98 elements and their ions. It also allows the user to draw a spectrum with their own personal data.

The lines data extends from Extreme UV to Near IR ($10\,nm \leq \lambda \leq 4000\,nm$). *See section The lines data below for more information.*

It is possible to redshift the lines of a spectrum, by directly entering the redshift value or the velocity and the angle to compute the redshift value (Doppler Redshift).

This package also provides color conversion (correlated color temperature), shadings for use with TikZ and/or PGFPLOTS and color maps for use with PGFPLOTS.

Contents

Installation and usage

pgf-spectra is placed under the terms of the LaTeX Project Public License, version 1.3 or later (http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt). pgf-spectra loads and only requires the package TikZ.

You need to put the style file (pgf-spectra.sty) in a location where PDFLaTeX can find them. According to the TDS conventions this may be a subdirectory named tex/latex/pgfspectra/ or tex/latex/misc/ in your (site specific) installation tree (insert your appropriate directory delimiter instead of /, if needed).

If you are using PDFLaTeX, just can simply include the style file without any option via the \usepackage command, \usepackage{pgf-spectra}

It can also be loaded with *one option* to select the data source:
\usepackage[option]{pgf-spectra}

For more detailed information see section The lines data.

What's new

▸ In version 2.2.0

- LSE data *renormalized* to lower values within TEX capabilities.
  This prevents `Dimension too large` errors and subsequent errors in spectrum drawing when using the relative intensity key.
- Added maximum intensities in IR, visible an UV ranges for both data sources (NIST and LSE). Now, when using the relative intensity key, the interval of wavelengths is detected and the respective maximum intensity is used. For example, if the spectrum is within the visible range, say between 400 and 700 nanometers, the maximum visible intensity will be used. The same is true for ranges only in IR or UV ranges. But, if the spectrum to be drawn is in more than one region – for example, from 300 to 1000 or from 400 to 1000 or from 300 to 700 nanometers – the maximum intensity that will be used is defined as the maximum intensity of all data.
- Fixed some typos in the manual.

▸ In version 2.1.1

- Code rewrote for the command \pgfspectraplotshade, supporting two new keys:
  - shade begin
  - logarithmic

▸ In version 2.1.0

- The continuous visible region is now drawn via TikZ shading, improving a little bit the speed of the whole process.
- Minor fix: the width of the emission/absortion lines are now correctly drawn.
- New keys for \pgfspectra:
  - use visible shading
  - backVIS
  - axis unit
  - axis unit precision
- New color conversion command, which converts a temperature in Kelvin to the correspondent rgb color, based on correlated color temperature:
  - \tempercolor{temperature in Kelvin}
- New commands that provides shadings to use in TikZ:
  - \pgfspectrashade[<h|v>](start,end){name}
  - \pgfspectrarainbow<[tikz options]><(rainbow options)>{radius}

    The TikZ keys that affect the rainbow are:
    - color
    - opacity

    * scope fading

  The specific rainbow options are:

    * rainbow fade
    * rainbow start
    * rainbow knock out
    * rainbow background
    * rainbow transparency

- New command that provides a shading to use in PGFPLOTS:
  - \pgfspectraplotshade[options]{name} with the following specific keys
    * shade end
    * shade opacity
    * shade opacity color
- New command that builds a color map to use in PGFPLOTS:
  - \pgfspectraplotmap[<l|h>]{name}

▶ In version 2.0.0

- The package can now be loaded with one of the following options:
  - \usepackage[NIST]{pgf-spectra} (**default**)
  - \usepackage[LSE]{pgf-spectra}
- Range of spectral window from $10\,nm$ to $4000\,nm$ (previous version from $380\,nm$ to $780\,nm$).
- Added the lines data outside the visible range for the 98 elements.
- No more dependency on the package ifthen (code rewritten with the \ ifx TEX primitive).
- Setting/disabling global options to draw the spectra's with the new commands:
  - \pgfspectraStyle[options]
  - \pgfspectraStyleReset
- New keys:
  - axis ticks
  - backIRUV (only for emission spectrum)
  - IRcolor (for emission lines and for background in absorption spectrum)
  - UVcolor (for emission lines and for background in absorption spectrum)
  - redshift
  - show redshift value
- The issues with the zooming of the pdf viewer sometimes introducing blank lines in the spectra have been fixed:

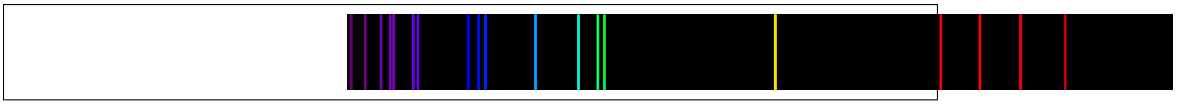
  

  The rendition should now be working for every zoom (I hope!):

  Many thanks to *Daniel García*'s suggestion to solve this problem!

- Fixed the problem when putting the spectra inside any horizontal TEX box, like \makebox, \mbox or \hbox.
  For instance, the code \makebox[\textwidth][c]{\pgfspectra[element=He]}:
  - had as a result in the previous version (version 1.0):



  - and will result in version 2.0.0 at:

The lines data

There are two data sets availbale for drawing the spectra: one based in the previous version, whose data was initially obtained from the package pst-spectra and the other obtained from NIST.

In both cases are included the lines for 98 elements, from hydrogen ($Z = 1$) to einsteinium ($Z = 99$), except for francium ($Z = 87$). For each element there are lines between $10\,nm$ and $4000\,nm$ (obtained from the referred pages at February 2021).

1 Data based on pst-spectra

This set was obtained from http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/Cat?VI/16

According to the information on the page the listed lines are based on "Line Spectra of the Elements", Joseph Reader and Charles H. Corliss CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics. This book refers that «The table contains the outstanding spectral lines of neutral (I) and singly ionized (II) atoms of the elements from hydrogen through plutonium ($Z = 1 - 94$); selected strong lines from doubly ionized (III), triply ionized (IV), and quadruply ionized (V) atoms are also included.»

Note: pst-spectra documentation refers "*Line Spectra of the Elements from the Astronomical Data Center of NASA*" as the source material, but I'm assuming the original source is "*Line Spectra of the Elements", Joseph Reader and Charles H. Corliss CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, obtained from http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/Cat?VI/16.

To use this data set load the package `pgf-spectra` with the option `LSE` (acronym to Line Spectra of the Elements):

```
\usepackage[LSE]{pgf-spectra}
```

Number of lines provided: 46065 (see file pgf-spectraDataLSE.pdf)

2 Data based on NIST

This set was obtained from
https://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/Handbook/Tables/findinglist.htm

According to the information on the page the listed lines «includes data for the neutral and singly-ionized atoms».

Note: **This set is loaded by default**. Because the data to search is slightly smaller (only neutral and singly-ionized atoms) the time consumption when building the spectra could be a bit lower.

To use this data set load the package `pgf-spectra` without options:

```
\usepackage{pgf-spectra}
```

Number of lines provided: 11980 (see file pgf-spectraDataNIST.pdf);

The commands

The four *main* commands, those related with this package itself, are:

- \pgfspectra or \pgfspectra[options list]
- \wlcolor{wavelength}
- \pgfspectraStyle[options]
- \pgfspectraStyleReset

There are other four commands to use with TikZ and/or PGFPLOTS:

- \tempercolor{Kelvin}
- \pgfspectrashade[<h|v>](start,end){name}
- \pgfspectraplotshade[options]{name}
- \pgfspectraplotmap[<l|h>]{name}

And finally *just for fun* a command that draws a rainbow:

- \pgfspectrarainbow<[tikz options]><(rainbow options)>{radius}

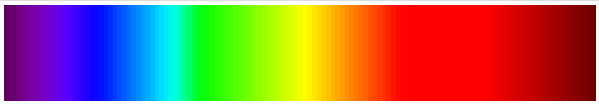
► Utilization of \pgfspectra

This command is used without options to draw the visible continuous spectrum:

```
\pgfspectra
```

When using options, a continuous or discrete spectra in the visible region can be drawn, for instance:

```
\pgfspectra[width=.5\textwidth,height=1.25cm]
```



```
\pgfspectra[width=\textwidth,element=Ne]
```

The options available for \pgfspectra are described in section The options for \pgfspectra.

► Utilization of \wlcolor{wavelength}

A command to convert a wavelength from 380 to 780 nanometres (or other value in the range $10\,nm \leq \lambda \leq 4000\,nm$) to the respective color available as 'wlcolor':

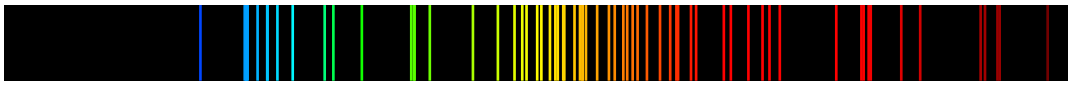
```
\tikz{\foreach \x in {380,400,...,780}{\wlcolor{\x}
          \draw[fill=wlcolor] (.03*\x,0) rectangle ++(.6,.5)
                node[midway,font=\tiny\bfseries,text=black!50] {\x};}}
```

```
\tikz{\foreach \x/\y in {10/0,100/1,500/2,1000/3,2000/4,3000/5,4000/6}{\wlcolor{\x}
          \draw[fill=wlcolor] (\y,0) rectangle ++(1,.5)
                  node[midway,font=\tiny\bfseries,text=black!50] {\x};}}
```

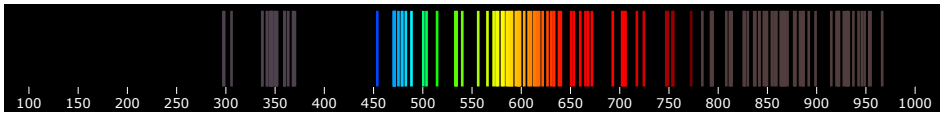
▶ Utilization of \pgfspectraStyle[options]

Use this command to set the global style of all the subsequent drawn spectra:

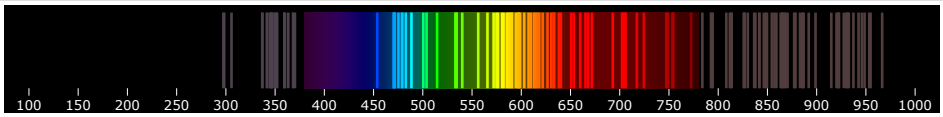
```
\pgfspectra[element=Ne]                                    (before defining the global style)
```



```
\pgfspectraStyle[width=.75\textwidth,axis,begin=100,end=1000,axis step=50]
\pgfspectra[element=Ne]                                    (after defining the global style)
```

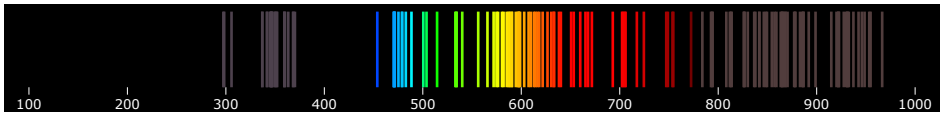



```
\pgfspectra[element=Ne,back=visible40,gamma=.6]            (adding other options)
```



Note you can locally override the settings defined in the global style:

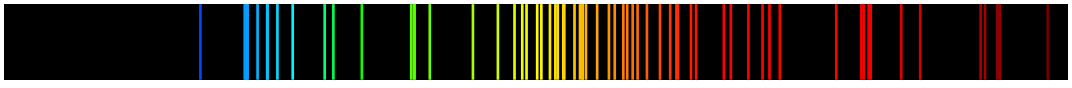
```
\pgfspectra[element=Ne,axis step=100]                      (overriding a global option)
```



▶ Utilization of \pgfspectraStyleReset

Used to reset all the options of the spectra to their default values:

```
\pgfspectraStyleReset
\pgfspectra[element=Ne]
```



► Utilization of \tempercolor{Kelvin}

A command that uses the CIE 1964 10-degree color matching function to convert a given temperature, in Kelvin ($1000\,\mathrm{K} \leq \mathrm{T} \leq 40000\,\mathrm{K}$), to the respective correlated color. For more information on the implemented algorithm, please see:

- https://tannerhelland.com/2012/09/18/convert-temperature-rgb-algorithm-code.html
- https://www.zombieprototypes.com/?p=210
- https://github.com/neilbartlett/color-temperature

```
\foreach \T in {1000,1700,1850,2400,2550,2700,3000,3200,%
          3350,5000,5500,6000,6200,6500,6600,6700,9500,15000,%
          27000,40000}
     {\tempercolor{\T}\tikz{
      \fill[tempercolor,font=\small] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.5) %
      node[midway] {\color{black}\T\ K};}\\ [-1pt]%
     }%
```

1000 K
1700 K
1850 K
2400 K
2550 K
2700 K
3000 K
3200 K
3350 K
5000 K
5500 K
6000 K
6200 K
6500 K
6600 K
6700 K
9500 K
15000 K
27000 K
40000 K

► Utilization of \pgfspectrashade[<h|v>](start,end){name}

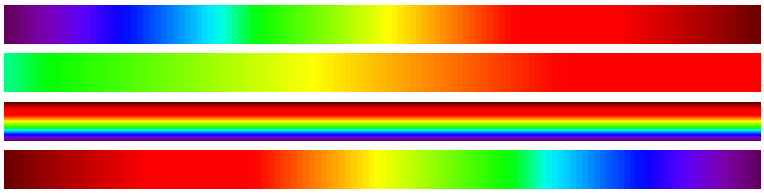
This commands builds and makes available a **h**orizontal or a **v**ertical shading, between the 'start' and 'end' wavelengths (in nanometres), to use in Ti*k*Z pictures with the provided 'name'.

Note that, in this command, the 'start' wavelength needs to be smaller then the 'end' wavelength and is in the visible region: $\lambda_{\mathrm{start}} < \lambda_{\mathrm{end}}$ and $380 \leq \lambda \leq 780$.

The optional parameter takes the value **h** or **v** and has the default value of **h**.

```
\pgfspectrashade(380,780){myShadeA}
\pgfspectrashade(500,700){myShadeB}
\pgfspectrashade[v](380,780){myShadeC}
```

```
\tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeA] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
\\ [3pt]\tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeB] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
\\ [3pt]\tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeC] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
\\ [3pt]\tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeA,shading angle=180] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
```

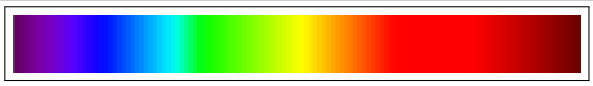


► Utilization of \pgfspectraplotshade[options]{name}

This command, without any options, builds and makes available a shading in the wavelength range from 380 nm to 780 nm to use in PGFPLOTS with the provided 'name'.

```
\pgfspectraplotshade{myPlotShadeA}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=myPlotShadeA] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

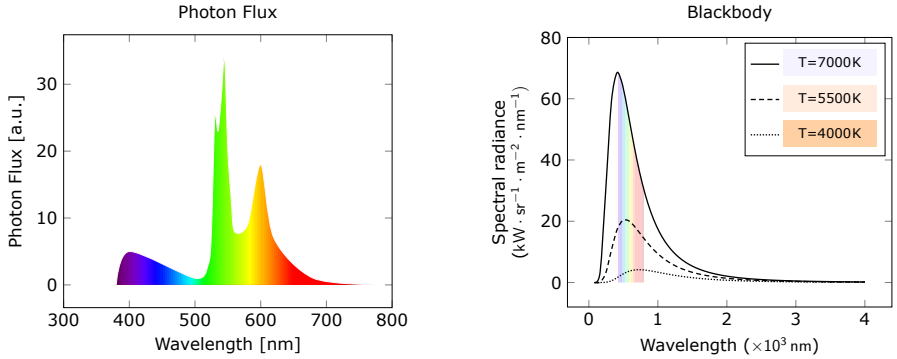


The optional argument can receive specific options for the shade or \pgfspectra options:

```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=0,shade end=4000,IRcolor=white,UVcolor=white,
shade opacity=.2,gamma=.6]{myPlotShadeB}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=myPlotShadeB] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

The specific options available are shade end, shade opacity and shade opacity color. See section The options for \pgfspectraplotshade for detailed information on using these options. When used in PGFPLOTS it's possible to do plots like:



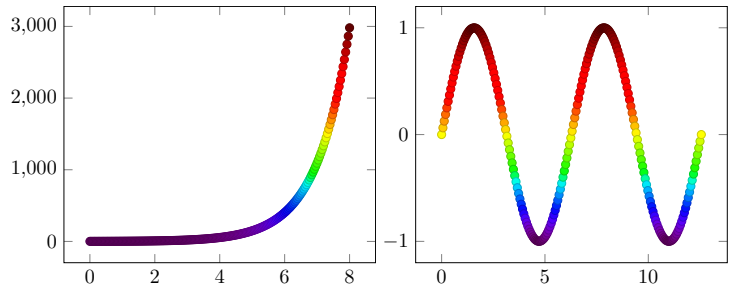
For these plots and other ones see Using \pgfspectraplotshade and \pgfspectraplotmap with PGFPLOTS.

► Utilization of \pgfspectraplotmap[<l|h>]{name}

This command builds and makes available a **l**ow or **h**igh *resolution* color map in the wavelength range from $380\,nm$ to $780\,nm$ to use in PGFPLOTS with the provided 'name':

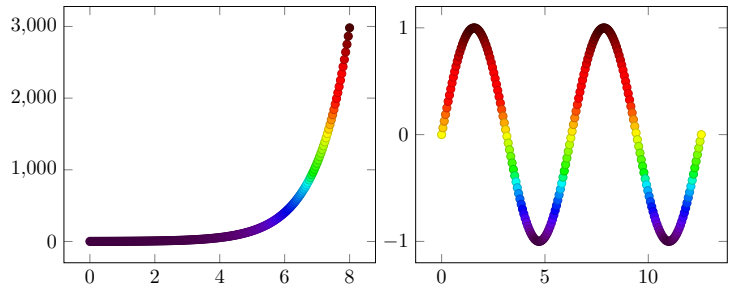
```
\pgfspectraplotmap{myColorMap}% low resolution (default value for optional parameter)
```

```
\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[colormap name=myColorMap]
\addplot+[scatter,only marks,domain=0:8,samples=200] {exp(x)};
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[colormap name=myColorMap]
\addplot+[scatter,only marks,domain=0:4*pi,samples=200] {sin(deg(x))};
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
```




```
\pgfspectraplotmap[h]{myColorMapH}% high resolution ('h' value in optional parameter)
```

```
\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[colormap name=myColorMapH]
\addplot+[scatter,only marks,domain=0:8,samples=200] {exp(x)};
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[colormap name=myColorMapH]
\addplot+[scatter,only marks,domain=0:4*pi,samples=200] {sin(deg(x))};
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
```



Actually using high or low resolution produces the same effect on plot. The difference resides on the number of colors available to the 'color of colormap' feature. For more information see Using \pgfspectraplotshade and \pgfspectraplotmap with PGFPLOTS.

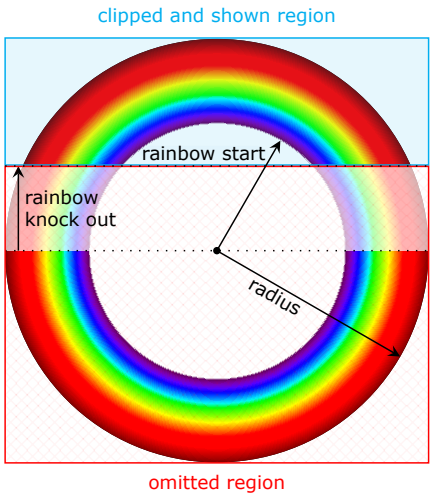
The above commands – \pgfspectrashade, \pgfspectraplotshade and \pgfspectraplotmap – were inspired in the TeX - LaTeX Stack Exchange questions, Filling optical spectrum curve with color gradient and How to create a electromagnetic spectrum using pgfplots package (together with colormaps), which were referred by Stefan Pinnow, as examples, in a features request for the `pgf-spectra` package.

▶ Utilization of \pgfspectrarainbow<[tikz options]><(rainbow options)>{radius}

Without options this command draws a rainbow with the specified radius:

```
\pgfspectrarainbow{2cm}
```

The rainbow is designed with the following schema resulting in a clipped and shown region:



The options available could be specific options for the rainbow or *common* TikZ options:

- the rainbow specific options:
  - rainbow start
  - rainbow knock out
  - rainbow fade
  - rainbow transparency
  - rainbow background
- the TikZ options: any option known by TikZ and/or TikZ libraries.

For detailed information on using this command see The options for \pgfspectrarainbow.

The options for \pgfspectra

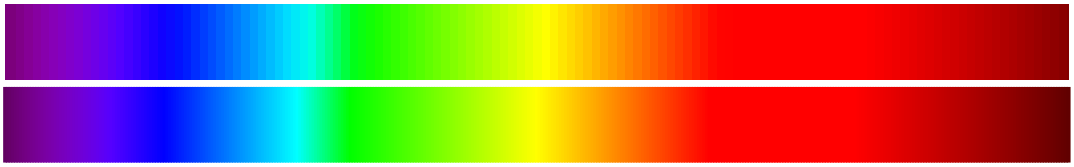
For the commands \pgfspectra and \pgfspectraStyle there are a set of options available to draw the spectrum as described below.

The list of options is of the form 'key' or 'key=value' separated by commas.

use visible shading default: *true*

The visible region of the spectra is drawn using a TikZ shading instead of line by line, resulting in a faster drawing of that region. When set to 'false' the visible region is drawn line by line: this value could be useful for printers that tend to be problematic when printing the shadings.
(new in v2.1.0)

```
\pgfspectra
\\ \pgfspectra[use visible shading=false]
```



width default: *0.9\textwidth*

Sets the width of the spectrum.

```
\pgfspectra[width=10cm]
```

height default: *1cm*

Sets the height of the spectrum.

```
\pgfspectra[height=40pt]
```

element default: *NONE*

A single chemical symbol of an element or a list of chemical symbols.

```
\pgfspectra[element=H]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element={H,He}]
```

charge default: *0*

The charge of the *particle* to draw the spectrum. Use 'all' to get all available lines for the element, i.e, for the atom and all the positive ions that exist in the database. For LSE data: a value between 0 and 4; all other values are processed as 'all'. For NIST data: 0 or 1. All other values are processed as 'all'.

```
\pgfspectra[element=He]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,charge=1]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,charge=2]
```

Element "He" with charge "2" have no lines to display.

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,charge=all]
```

Imin default: *0*

The minimum intensity of the lines to put in the spectrum. Value from 0 to 1.

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,Imin=.5]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,Imin=.05]
```

relative intensity default: *false*

Draws the lines respecting the intensity of the observed spectrum.

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,relative intensity]
```

relative intensity threshold default: *0.25*

Sets the minimum intensity for the lines in the spectrum when using relative intensities. When set to 0.25 a line with real intensity 0 will have a spectral intensity of 0.25 and a line with intensity equal to the max intensity observed in that spectrum will have an intensity in the computed spectrum of 1, assuming of course, an overall intensity in the range between 0 and 1.

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=0]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=.25]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=.5]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=.75]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=1]
```

In fact, setting the relative intensity threshold to 1 is equivalent to the spectrum without relative intensities:

```
\pgfspectra[element=He]
```

line intensity default: *100*

Draws all the lines with the specified intensity between 0 and 100 (as a percentage of the maximum intensity).

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,line intensity=0]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,line intensity=50]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,line intensity=100]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He]
```

gamma default: *0.8*

Gamma color correction: any positive value.

```
\pgfspectra[gamma=.1]
```

```
\pgfspectra[gamma=.8]
```

```
\pgfspectra[gamma=1]
```

```
\pgfspectra[gamma=2]
```

```
\pgfspectra[gamma=5]
```

```
\pgfspectra[gamma=10]
```

brightness default: *1*

Brightness color correction as in the CMYK color model. Value between 0 and 1. Zero stands for black and one for the maximum bright. *This option only works for the continuous component of the spectra, to change the "brightness" of spectral lines use the option 'line intensity'.*

```
\pgfspectra[brightness=.1]
```

```
\pgfspectra[brightness=.5]
```

```
\pgfspectra[brightness=1]
```

back default: *black*

Sets the background color of the spectrum. Only useful when there are spectral lines. Some shorthand are defined to put the visible region in the background: 'visible5', 'visible10', 'visible15', . . . , 'visible100'.

Note: this labels combined with the 'brightness' option makes it possible to achieve other values on the background, since the visible amount (5%,10%,. . .) is multiplied by the value of brightness.

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=white]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=black!50]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible50]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible50,brightness=.26]
```

backIRUV default: *black*

Sets the background color, *only for the emission spectrum*, outside the visible region ($10nm \leq \lambda < 380nm$ and $780nm < \lambda \leq 4000nm$) *(new in v2.0.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible50,begin=100,end=1000,backIRUV=white]
```

IRcolor default: *rgb(0.3157,0.2373,0.2373)*

Sets the color for emission lines and for background in absorption spectrum in the IR region ($780nm < \lambda \leq 4000nm$) *(new in v2.0.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible50,begin=100,end=1000,IRcolor=white]
```

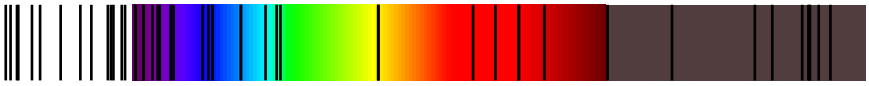
```
\pgfspectra[element=He,begin=100,end=1000,IRcolor=white,absorption]
```

UVcolor default: *rgb(0.3,0.2568,0.3)*

Sets the color for emission lines and for background in absorption spectrum in the UV region ($10nm \leq \lambda < 380nm$) *(new in v2.0.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible50,begin=100,end=1000,UVcolor=white]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,begin=100,end=1000,UVcolor=white,absorption]
```



lines default: *{}*

A comma separated list of wavelengths in the interval $[10; 4000]\,nm$. *(Interval updated in v2.2.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[lines={400,500,550,700}]
```

```
\pgfspectra[lines={200,205,400,500,550,700,850,950,980},begin=100,end=1000]
```

line width default: *1pt*

The width of each individual line in the spectrum.

```
\pgfspectra[line width=2pt]
```

```
\pgfspectra[line width=2pt,element=He]
```

begin default: *380*

The starting wavelength in nanometres of the spectrum ($10 \leq \lambda \leq 4000$). *(Interval updated in v2.2.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[begin=500]
```

end default: *740*

The finishing wavelength in nanometres of the spectrum ($10 \leq \lambda \leq 4000$).

(Interval updated in v2.2.0)

```
\pgfspectra[end=500]
```

Remark: *it's obviously possible to set 'begin' and 'end' at the same time and if desired change the order of the wavelengths.*

```
\pgfspectra[begin=500,end=700]
```

```
\pgfspectra[begin=700,end=500]
```

```
\pgfspectra[begin=780,end=380]
```

```
\pgfspectra[begin=780,end=380,element=He]
```

absorption default: *false*

Draws the absorption spectrum instead of the emission one.

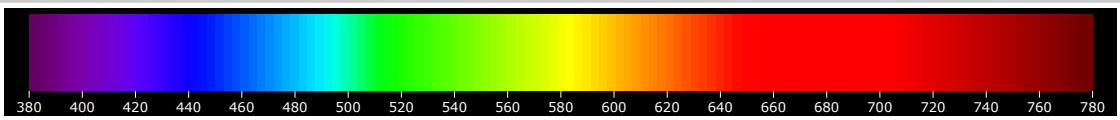
```
\pgfspectra[element=H,absorption]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element={H,He},absorption]
```

axis default: *false*

By default draws a nanometric axis below the spectrum.
In v2.1.0 is now possible to *change the unit* of the axis.

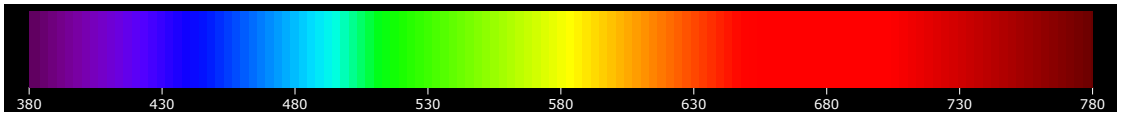
```
\pgfspectra[axis]
```



axis step default: *20*

The increment (in nanometres) to use in the axis scale.

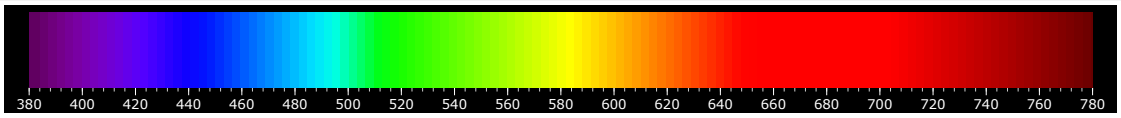
```
\pgfspectra[axis,axis step=50]
```



axis ticks default: *0*

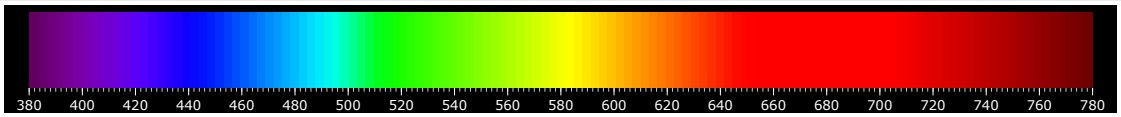
The number of minor ticks between two consecutive ticks in the axis. *(new in v2.0.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[axis,axis ticks=4]
```



Keep in mind, if you desire to divide two consecutive ticks into 10 equal parts set 'axis ticks=9':

```
\pgfspectra[axis,axis ticks=9]
```



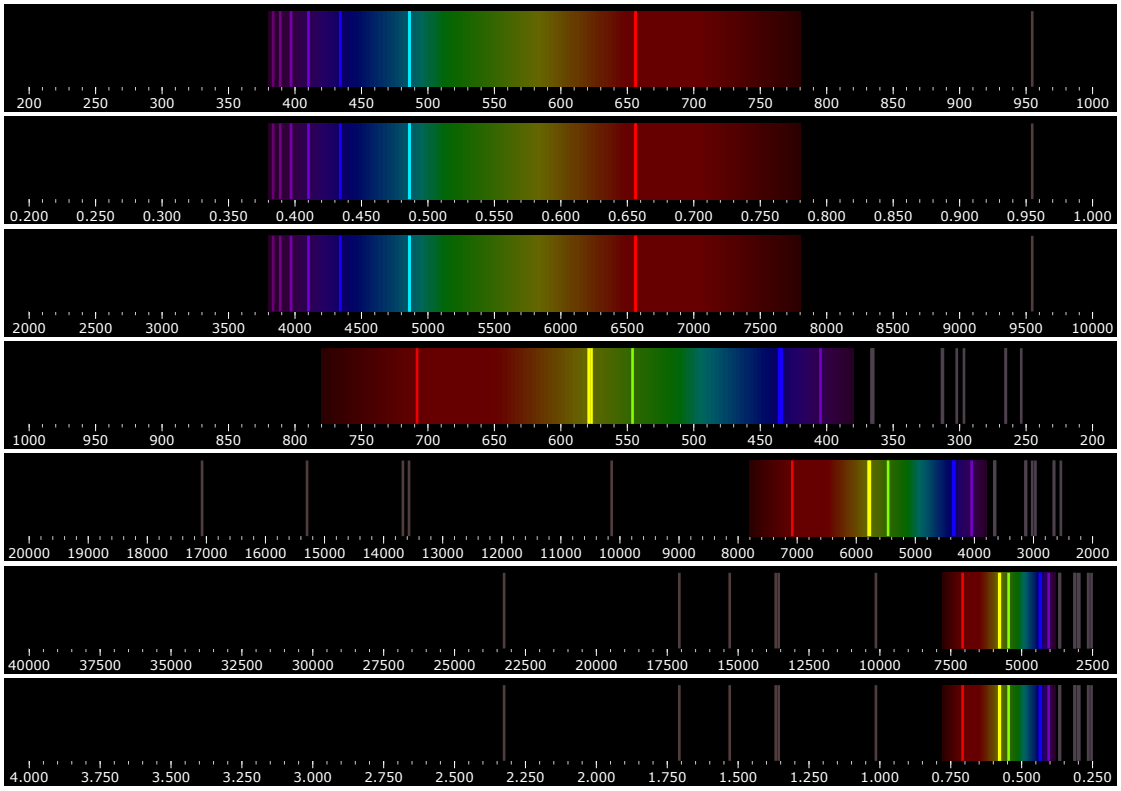
axis unit default: *nm*

Sets the unit to use in the displayed values of wavelenghts in the axis below the spectrum. Available units are:

- nanometre (nm): axis unit=nm
- micrometre (μm): axis unit=micron
- angstrom (Å): axis unit=A

(new in v2.1.0)

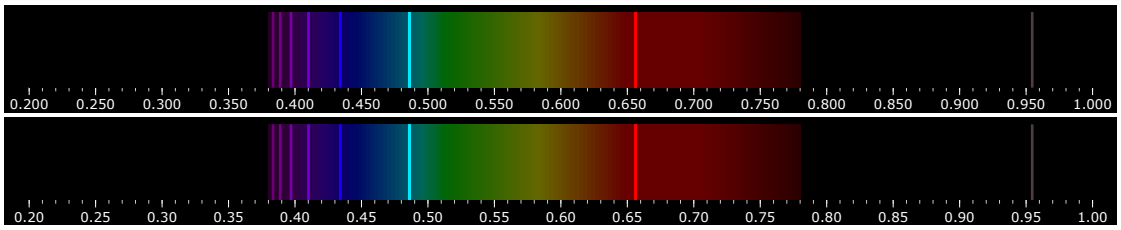
```
\pgfspectra[element=H,begin=200,end=1000,axis,axis step=50,axis
ticks=4,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=H,begin=200,end=1000,axis,axis step=50,axis
ticks=4,axis unit=micron,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=H,begin=200,end=1000,axis,axis step=50,axis
ticks=4,axis unit=A,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=Hg,begin=1000,end=200,axis,axis step=50,axis
ticks=4,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=Hg,begin=2000,end=200,axis,axis step=100,axis
ticks=4,axis unit=A,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=Hg,begin=4000,end=250,axis,axis step=250,axis
ticks=4,axis unit=A,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=Hg,begin=4000,end=250,axis,axis step=250,axis
ticks=4,axis unit=micron,back=visible40]
```



axis unit precision default: *3*

Sets the precision of the displayed wavelenghts in the axis below the spectrum. *(new in v2.1.0)*

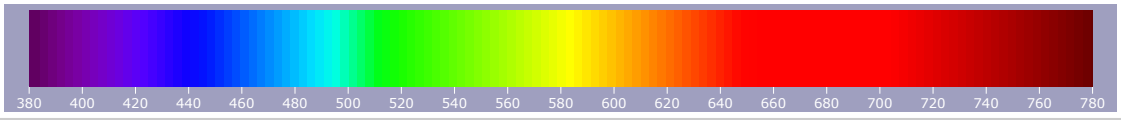
```
\pgfspectra[element=H,begin=200,end=1000,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,axis unit=micron,back=visible40]
\\ \pgfspectra[element=H,begin=200,end=1000,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,axis unit=micron,axis unit precision=2,back=visible40]
```



axis color default: *black*

The color of the axis.

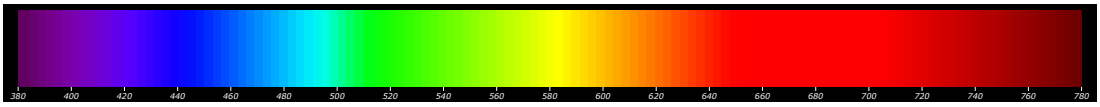
```
\pgfspectra[axis,axis color=red!50!green!50!blue!50]
```



axis font default: *\tiny*

The font specs to use in the axis.

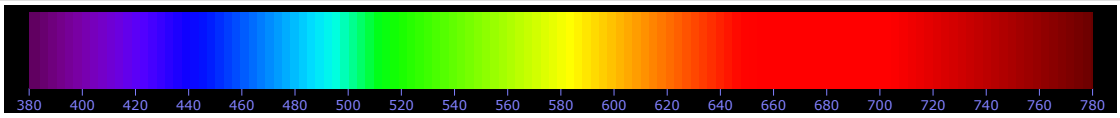
```
\pgfspectra[axis,axis font=\fontsize{3}{3}\itshape\selectfont]
```



axis font color default: *white*

The color of the font used in the axis.

```
\pgfspectra[axis,axis font color=blue!50!white]
```



label default: *false*

Puts a label for the spectrum.

```
\pgfspectra[label]
```

```
\pgfspectra[label,element=He]
```

label position default: *west*

Sets the position of the label according to:

north west	north	north east
west	*spectrum*	east
south west	south	south east

```
\pgfspectra[label,label position=east,element=He]
```

label font default: *\bfseries\small*

The font specs for the label.

```
\pgfspectra[label,label font=\footnotesize\itshape,element=He]
```

label font color default: *black*

The color of the font used in the label.

```
\pgfspectra[label,label font color=blue!50!white,element=He]
```

label before text default: *{}*

Inserts text before the value stored in the label: if chemical symbols were provided, the label has them stored, otherwise it is empty.

```
\pgfspectra[label,label before text=text\ ,element=He]
```

Remark: *The \␣ is to insert a space between the text entered by user and the text stored in label.*

label after text default: *{}*

Inserts text after the value stored in the label: if chemical symbols were provided, the label has them stored, otherwise it is empty.

```
\pgfspectra[label,label after text=\ text,element=He]
```

redshift default: *{}*

Redshift (or blueshift) the spectral lines:
The redshift value (z) is *defined* as $1 + z = \lambda_{obs}/\lambda_E$ which leaves the observed wavelength to $\lambda_{obs} = (1 + z)\lambda_E$, given the emitted wavelength of the source (λ_E).

- **Use 'redshift=<numeric value>'** to directly enter the redshift value
- or **use 'redshift={D=<numeric value 1>/<numeric value 2>}'** to compute the Relativistic Doppler redshift with $\overline{v} =$ <numeric value 1> and $\theta =$ <numeric value 2>^{o}.

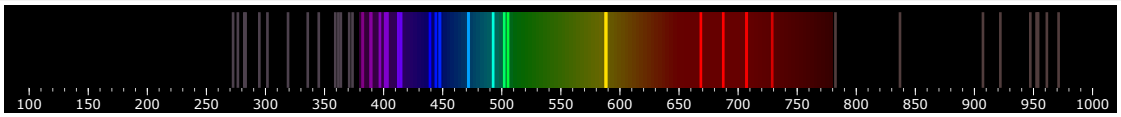
  The Relativistic Doppler redshift $(1 + z)$ is calculated accordingly:

$$1 + z = \frac{1 + \overline{v}\cos\theta}{\sqrt{1 - \overline{v}^2}} \qquad \overline{v} = \frac{v}{c}$$

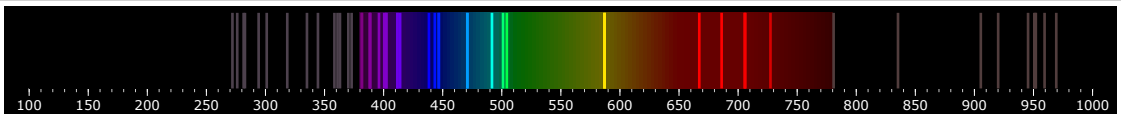
  where $\overline{v}$ is the *normalized velocity* (in units of the speed of light in vacuum, c) of the emitter and θ is the angle between the direction of relative motion and the direction of emission in the observer's frame (zero angle is directly away from the observer).
  So, if the source of light is moving away from an observer, then redshift occurs ($z > 0$), but, if the source moves towards the observer, then blueshift occurs ($z < 0$).

(new in v2.0.0)

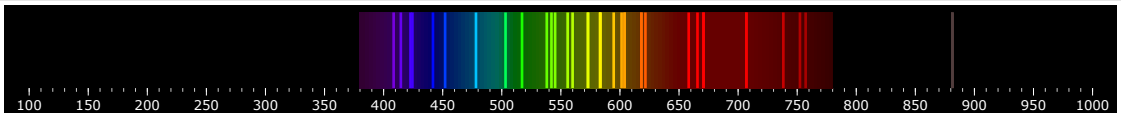
```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible40,gamma=.6,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,begin=100,end=1000,redshift={D=.001/0}]
```



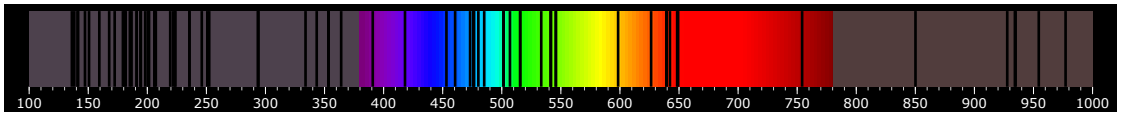

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible40,gamma=.6,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,begin=100,end=1000,redshift={D=.001/180}]
```




```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible40,gamma=.6,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,begin=100,end=1000,redshift=.5]
```



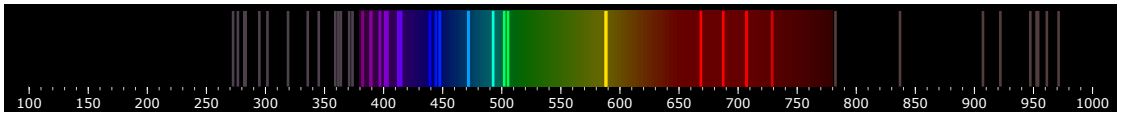

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,absorption,gamma=.6,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,begin=100,end=1000,redshift=-.5]
```



show redshift value default: *false*

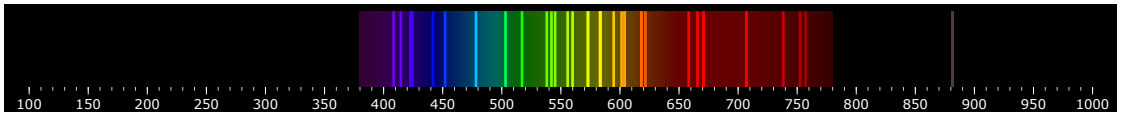
Writes the value of the redshift (left below the spectrum). *(new in v2.0.0)*

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible40,gamma=.6,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,begin=100,end=1000,redshift={D=.001/0},show redshift value]
```



Relativistic Doppler redshift z=0.001 (v=.001c ; θ=0°)

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible40,gamma=.6,axis,axis step=50,axis ticks=4,begin=100,end=1000,redshift=.5,show redshift value]
```



redshift z=.5

The options for \pgfspectraplotshade

This command creates a shade to use with the \addplot command provided by the PGFPLOTS package. The shade starts at shade begin and finishes at shade end. The shading could be adjusted using the following options:

- shade begin
- shade end
- shade opacity
- shade opacity color
- logarithmic

shade begin default: *380*

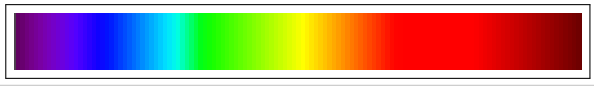
This value determines the start wavelength of the computed shading. It should be set equal to the minimum value of the plotted data. It could be different from the inferior limit of the domain provided to the plot (see the PGFPLOTS package documentation for more information). The range of accepted values goes from 0 nm to (shade end-1). *(new in v2.1.1)*

shade end default: *780*

This value determines the end wavelength of the computed shading. It should be set equal to the maximum value of the plotted data and could be different from the superior limit of the domain provided to the plot. The range of accepted values goes from (shade begin+1) to 16000 nm. *(new in v2.1.0)*

```
\pgfspectraplotshade{shadeDefault}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeDefault] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

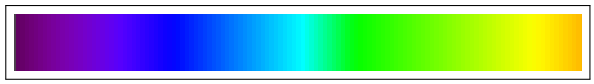


```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=600]{shadeBegin600}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeBegin600] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

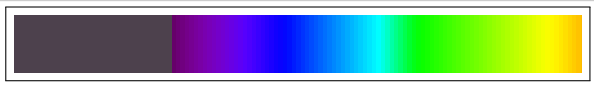
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade end=600]{shadeEnd600}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeEnd600] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=300,shade end=600]{shade300to600}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade300to600] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

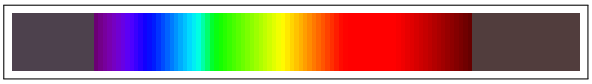


```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=600,shade end=900]{shade600to900}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade600to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=300,shade end=900]{shade300to900}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade300to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

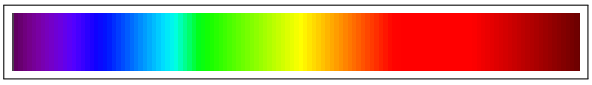


shade opacity default: *1*

The opacity of the computed shade. '0' stands for 0% and the shading is totaly transparent; '1' stands for 100% and the shading isn't transparent at all. *(new in v2.1.0)*

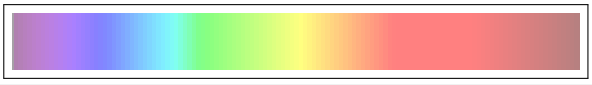
```
\pgfspectraplotshade{shadeDefault}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeDefault] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade opacity=.5]{shadeOpacity50}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeOpacity50] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade opacity=0]{shadeOpacity0}
```

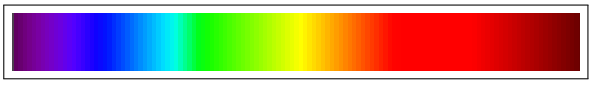
```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeOpacity0] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

shade opacity color default: *white*

The background color of the computed shading. Only visible when shade opacity is lesser then 1. *(new in v2.1.0)*

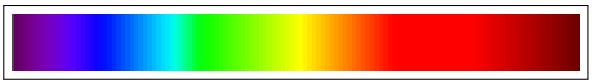
```
\pgfspectraplotshade{shadeDefault}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeDefault] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



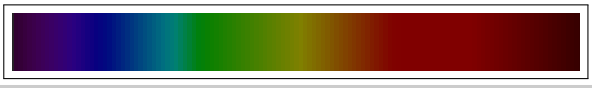
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade opacity color=black]{shadeOpacityBlack}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeOpacityBlack] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade opacity color=black, shade
opacity=.5]{shadeOpacityBlack50}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeOpacityBlack50] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```

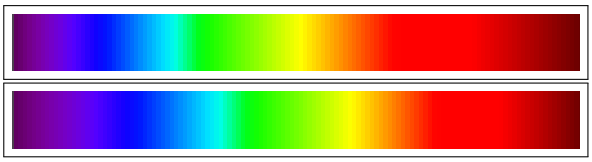


logarithmic default: *false*

When set to true the shading is build in a logarithmic scale. The smaller wavelengths are *wided* and the longer ones are *shortened* in the displayed region. *(new in v2.1.1)*

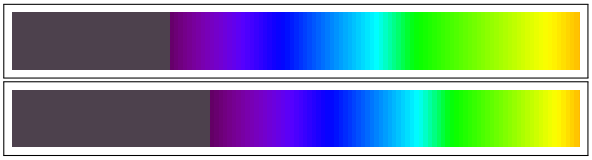
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic]{logshadeDefault}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shadeDefault] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
\\ \fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=logshadeDefault] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



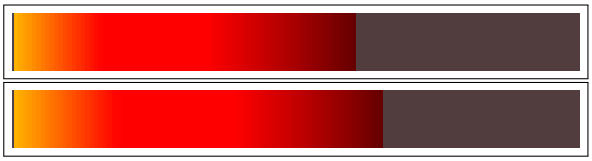
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic,shade begin=300,shade
end=600]{logshade300to600}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade300to600] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
\\ \fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=logshade300to600] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



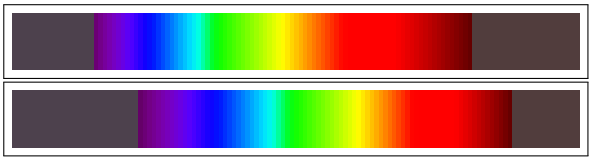
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic,shade begin=600,shade
end=900]{logshade600to900}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade600to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
\\ \fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=logshade600to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



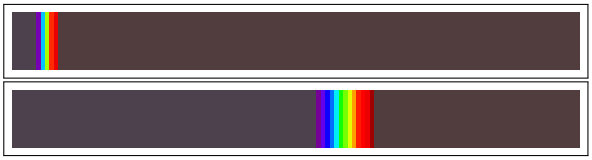
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic,shade begin=300,shade
end=900]{logshade300to900}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade300to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
\\ \fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=logshade300to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



```
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic,shade begin=10,shade
end=10000]{logshade10to10000}
```

```
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=shade10to10000] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
\\ \fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=logshade300to900] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}
```



The options for \pgfspectrarainbow

For the command \pgfspectrarainbow there are a set of options that control the rainbow drawn.

The specific rainbow options are:
- rainbow start
- rainbow knock out
- rainbow fade
- rainbow transparency
- rainbow background

Some TikZ keys that affect the rainbow are:
- 'color'
- opacity
- scope fading

The default rainbow drawn is:

```
\pgfspectrarainbow{2cm}
```

rainbow start default: *.6*

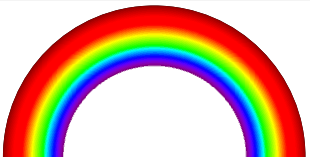
The fraction from which the rainbow colors begin, relative to the center of a circle with radius 1. This value should be in the interval [0,1]. *(new in v2.1.0)*

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow start=.8){2cm}% the rainbow colors starts at 1.6cm
\hspace{1cm}%
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow start=.4){2cm}% the rainbow colors starts at .8cm
```

rainbow knock out default: *.4*

The relative distance from the half-circle base to perform the clip. This value should be in the interval [-1,1]. *(new in v2.1.0)*

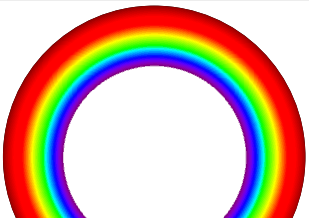
```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=0){2cm}% the full half circle
```



```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=.4){2cm}% the default value
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=.8){2cm}% only 80% of the half circle is
shown
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=-.4){2cm}% «extending» the half-circle
```



rainbow fade default: *{}*

Applies a scope fading in the clipped region (requires loading the TikZ fadings library). For more information about the fadings see the TikZ manual. *(new in v2.1.0)*

```
%\usetikzlibrary{fadings}
...
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow fade=south){2cm}
\hspace{1cm}%
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow fade=west){2cm}
```

rainbow transparency default: *0*

The overall transparency of the rainbow. '0' (0%) stands for the fill colors in the rainbow without transparency ; '1' (100%) represents a totally transparent rainbow. *(new in v2.1.0)*

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow transparency=.5){2cm}
```

rainbow background default: *white*

The background color below the rainbow (only visible with transparency). *(new in v2.1.0)*

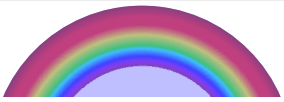
```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow background=blue){2cm}
\hspace{1cm}%
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow background=blue,rainbow transparency=.5){2cm}
```

Some of the TikZ keys that affect the rainbow:

```
\pgfspectrarainbow[blue]{2cm}% Setting only the fill color only takes no effect
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow[blue,scope fading=south]{2cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow[blue,opacity=.5]{2cm}
```



More examples in Using \pgfspectrarainbow<[tikz options]><(rainbow options)>{radius}.

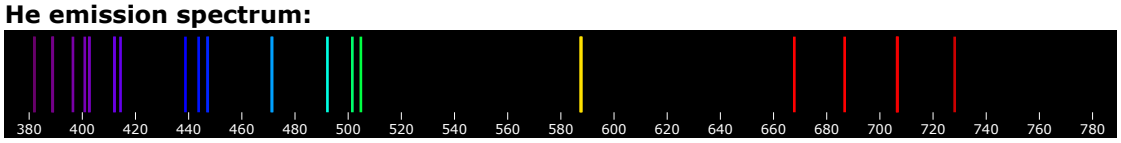
Examples

▸ Using \pgfspectra

Here are some examples for drawing some *eventually useful* spectra:

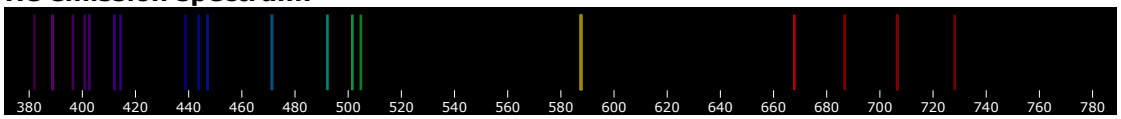
```
\pgfspectra[element=He,axis,label,label position=north west,
label after text=\ emission spectrum:]
```

He emission spectrum:




```
\pgfspectra[element=He,axis,label,label position=north west,label after text=
\ emission spectrum:,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=.5]
```

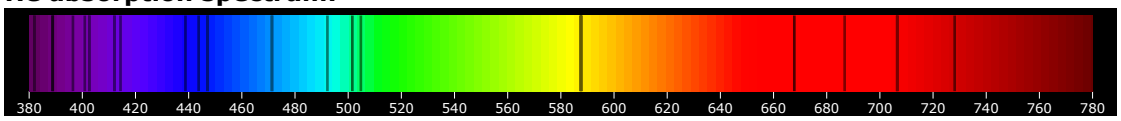
He emission spectrum:




```
\pgfspectra[element=He,charge=all,line intensity=50,Imin=.05]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,absorption,axis,label,label position=north west,label after
text=\ absorption spectrum:,relative intensity,relative intensity threshold=.5]
```

He absorption spectrum:



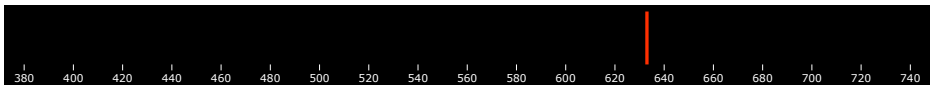

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,charge=all,absorption,line intensity=50]
```

```
\pgfspectra[element=He,charge=all,relative intensity,back=visible75,gamma=2]
```

When the lines are manually inserted it's possible to use 'label before text' only with personalized text. In the next three examples 'label before text' is used to make labels for a multiple choice problem, omitting evidently the type of luminous font.

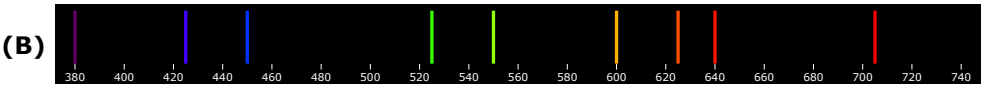
✓ Laser He-Ne

```
\pgfspectra[height=.7cm,end=740,lines={633},line
width=1.25pt,width=.75\linewidth,label,axis,label before text=(A),
axis font=\fontsize{4pt}{6pt}\selectfont]
```



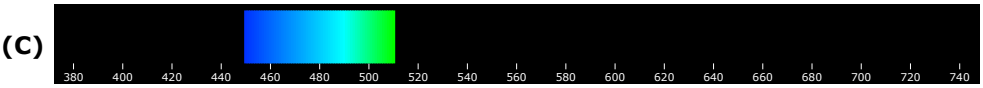
✓ Fluorescent lamp

```
\pgfspectra[height=.7cm,end=740,lines={380,425,450,525,550,600,625,640,705},
line width=1.25pt,width=.75\linewidth,label,axis,label before text=(B),
axis font=\fontsize{4pt}{6pt}\selectfont]
```



✓ Blue LED

```
\pgfspectra[height=.7cm,end=740,lines={450,451,452,453,454,455,456,457,458,
459,460,461,462,463,464,465,466,467,468,469,470,471,472,473,474,475,476,
477,478,479,480,481,482,483,484,485,486,487,488,489,490,491,492,493,494,
495,496,497,498,499,500,501,502,503,504,505,506,507,508,509,510},
line width=1.25pt,width=.75\linewidth,label,axis,label before text=(C),
axis font=\fontsize{4pt}{6pt}\selectfont]
```



✓ Sun like spectrum

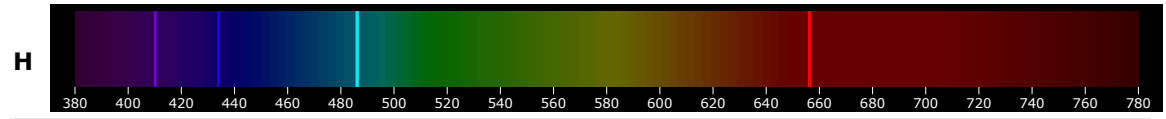
```
\pgfspectra[element={H,Fe,Mg,Na},absorption,line intensity=40,Imin=.05]
```

✓ Sirius like spectrum

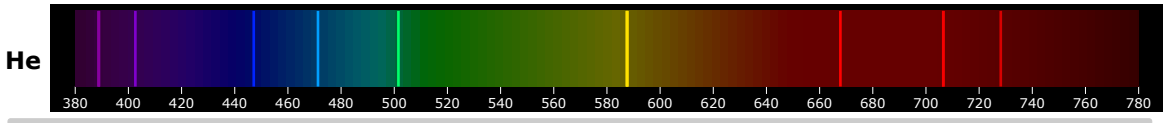
```
\pgfspectra[element={H,He},absorption,line intensity=40,Imin=.05]
```

✓ "Classical" emission spectra of elements:

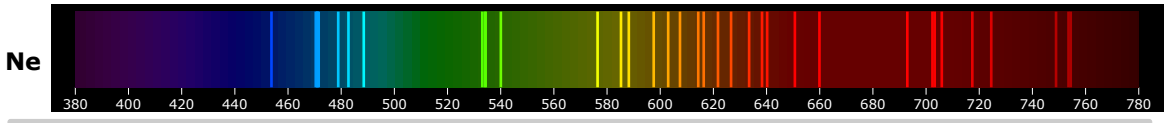
```
\pgfspectra[element=H,back=visible40,gamma=.6,label,axis,Imin=.05]
```




```
\pgfspectra[element=He,back=visible40,gamma=.6,label,axis,Imin=.05]
```



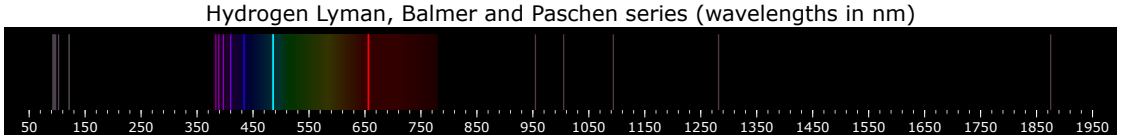

```
\pgfspectra[element=Ne,back=visible40,gamma=.6,label,axis,Imin=.05]
```



✓ Series of hydrogen:

```
\pgfspectra[element=H,line width=.5pt,begin=50,end=1950,axis,axis
step=100,axis ticks=4,back=visible40,gamma=.6,brightness=.5,label,label
position=north,label font=\footnotesize,label after text={ydrogen Lyman, Balmer
and Paschen series (wavelengths in nm)}]
```

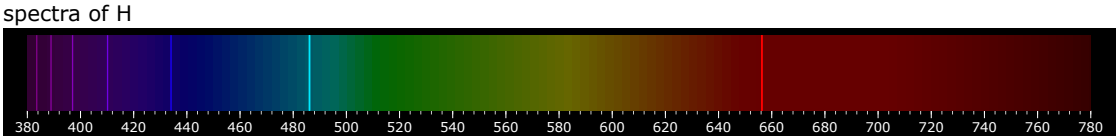
Hydrogen Lyman, Balmer and Paschen series (wavelengths in nm)



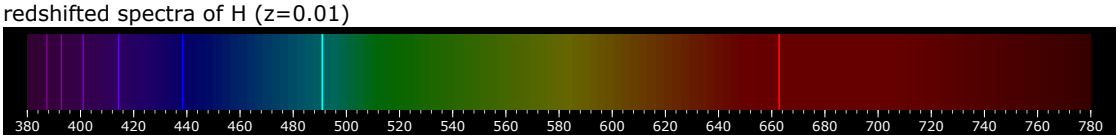
✓ Redshifted & Blueshifted lines of hydrogen using the \foreach statement:

```
\pgfspectraStyle[axis,axis ticks=4,back=visible40,gamma=.6,line width=.5pt]
\pgfspectra[element=H,label,label position=north west,label
font=\footnotesize,label before text={spectra of\ }]
\foreach \SQ/\z/\shift in {H/0.01/redshifted,H/-0.01/blueshifted}{
        \pgfspectra[element=\SQ,label,label position=north west,label
        font=\footnotesize,label before text={\shift\ spectra of\ },label after
        text={\ (z=\z)},redshift=\z]
}
\foreach \SQ/\z/\shift in {H/{D=0.01/0}/redshifted,H/{D=0.01/180}/blueshifted}{
        \pgfspectra[element=\SQ,label,label position=north west,label
        font=\footnotesize,label before text={\shift\ spectra of\ },redshift=\z,show
        redshift value]
}
```

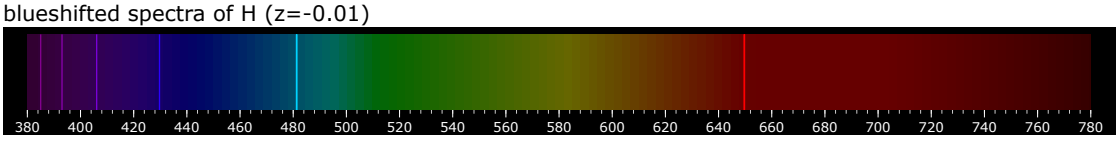
spectra of H



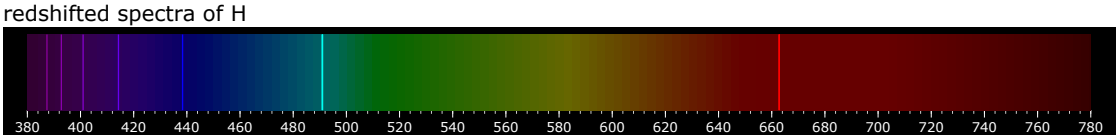
redshifted spectra of H (z=0.01)



blueshifted spectra of H (z=-0.01)

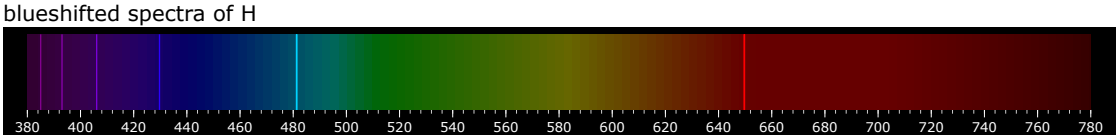


redshifted spectra of H



Relativistic Doppler redshift z=0.01 (v=0.01c ; $\theta = 0^{\circ}$)

blueshifted spectra of H

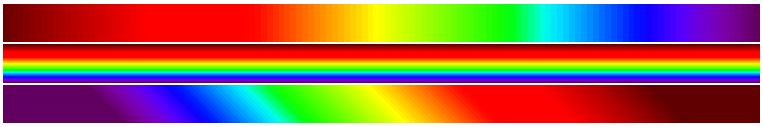


Relativistic Doppler redshift z=-0.01 (v=0.01c ; $\theta = 180^{\circ}$)

▶ Using \pgfspectrashade in TikZ

Obviously, the *normal* TikZ keys used to control the shadings apply to the shading generated via \pgfspectrashade:

```
\pgfspectrashade(380,780){myShadeA}
\\ \tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeA,shading angle=180] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
\\ \tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeA,shading angle=90] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
\\ \tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeA,shading angle=45] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
```



Providing an opacity to the drawing and applying a shade works well too:

```
\pgfspectrashade(380,780){myShadeA}
  • on black background:
    \\ \tikz{\fill[shading=myShadeA,opacity=.5] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
  • on white background:
    \\ \tikz{\fill[white,shading=myShadeA,opacity=.5] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
  • on red background:
    \\ \tikz{\fill[red,shading=myShadeA,opacity=.5] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
```

- on black background:

- on white background:

- on red background:

The gamma in the generated shade (via \pgfspectrashade) could be modified using the 'gamma' key of \pgfspectra set by the command \pgfspectraStyle:

```
\pgfspectrashade(380,780){myShadeA}
\tikz{\fill[myShadeA] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
```

```
\pgfspectraStyle[gamma=2]
\pgfspectrashade(380,780){myShadeGammaII}
\tikz{\fill[myShadeGammaII] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
```

```
\pgfspectraStyle[gamma=10]
\pgfspectrashade(380,780){myShadeGammaX}
\tikz{\fill[myShadeGammaX] (0,0) rectangle (10,.5);}
\pgfspectraStyleReset
```

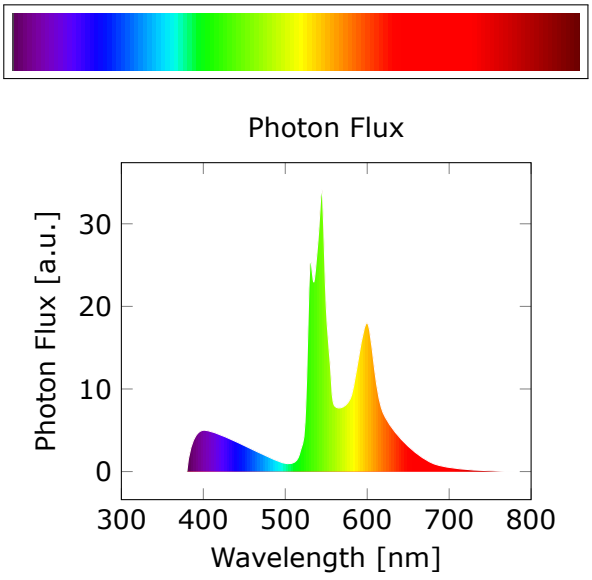
▸ Using \pgfspectraplotshade and \pgfspectraplotmap with PGFPLOTS

The command \pgfspectraplotshade is designed to build a shading to use with PGFPLOTS. Next examples show a few possibilities of how it could be used regarding two *sources*: a source of light and their photon flux and the blackbody spectral radiance.

In order to correctly make the filling between the path at axis and the plotted curve, the path should begin at 'shade begin' and end at 'shade end':
\path[name path=axis] (shade begin,0) – (shade end,0);

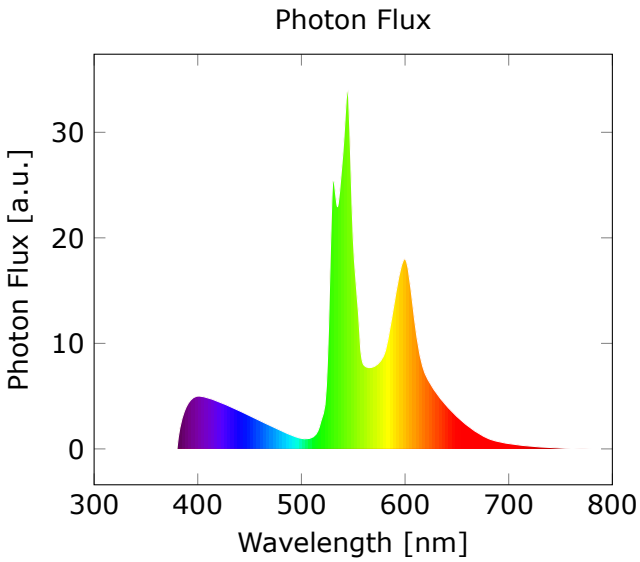
\pgfspectraplotshade{visiblespectrum}% default shading [380;780]nm

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=visiblespectrum] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[%
    title= Photon Flux,%
    xlabel={Wavelength [nm]},%
    ylabel={Photon Flux [a.u.]},%
    xmin=300,%
    xmax=800,%
]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,white] plot[] coordinates{%
    ( 380, 0 ) (400,5) ( 500, 1 ) ( 520, 3 ) ( 525, 8 ) ( 530, 25 )
    ( 535, 23 ) ( 540, 28 ) ( 545, 34 ) ( 550, 20 ) ( 555, 13 )
    ( 560, 8 ) ( 580, 9 ) ( 600, 18 ) ( 620, 7 ) ( 680, 1 ) ( 780, 0 )
};
\path[name path=axis] (380,0) -- (780,0);
\addplot+ [thick,shading=visiblespectrum]
    fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}%
```



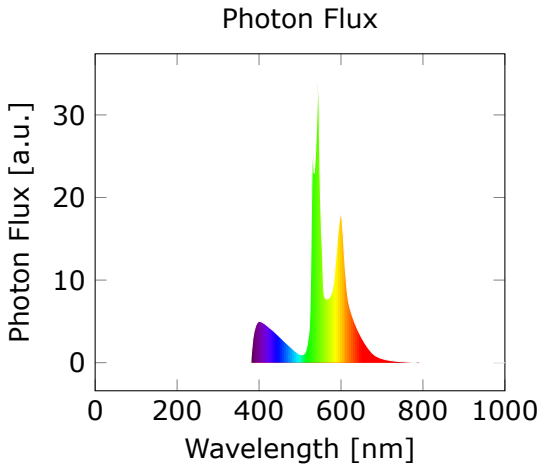
The above example could be obtained with the following *improved* code, based on a suggestion made by Stefan Pinnow:

```
\begin{tikzpicture}
        \pgfmathsetmacro{\xmin}{300}
        \pgfmathsetmacro{\xmax}{800}
        \pgfmathsetmacro{\shbegin}{380}
        \pgfmathsetmacro{\shend}{780}
        \pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=\shbegin,shade end=\shend]{visiblespectrum}
    \begin{axis}[
        title=Photon Flux,
        xlabel={Wavelength in nm},
        ylabel={Photon Flux in a.u.},
        xmin=\xmin,
        xmax=\xmax,
    ]
        \addplot [smooth, name path=spectrum,white] coordinates {
            (380,0) (400,5) (500,1) (520,3) (525,8) (530,25)
            (535,23) (540,28) (545,34) (550,20) (555,13)
            (560,8) (580,9) (600,18) (620,7) (680,1) (780,0)
        };
        \path [name path=axis] (\shbegin,0) -- (\shend,0);
        \addplot+ [thick,shading=visiblespectrum]
            fill between [of=spectrum and axis];
    \end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
```



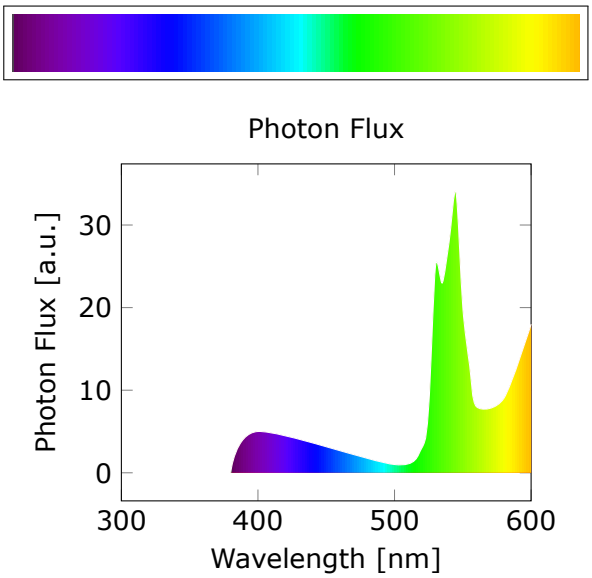
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade end=1000]{visiblespectrum}

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=visiblespectrum] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[%
    title= Photon Flux,%
    xlabel={Wavelength [nm]},%
    ylabel={Photon Flux [a.u.]},%
    xmin=0,%
    xmax=1000,%
]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,white] plot[] coordinates{%
    ( 380, 0 ) (400,5) ( 500, 1 ) ( 520, 3 ) ( 525, 8 ) ( 530, 25 )
    ( 535, 23 ) ( 540, 28 ) ( 545, 34 ) ( 550, 20 ) ( 555, 13 )
    ( 560, 8 ) ( 580, 9 ) ( 600, 18 ) ( 620, 7 ) ( 680, 1 ) ( 780, 0 )
    ( 800, 0) ( 900, 0) ( 1000, 0 )
};
\path[name path=axis] (380,0) -- (1000,0);
\addplot+ [thick,shading=visiblespectrum]
    fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}%
```



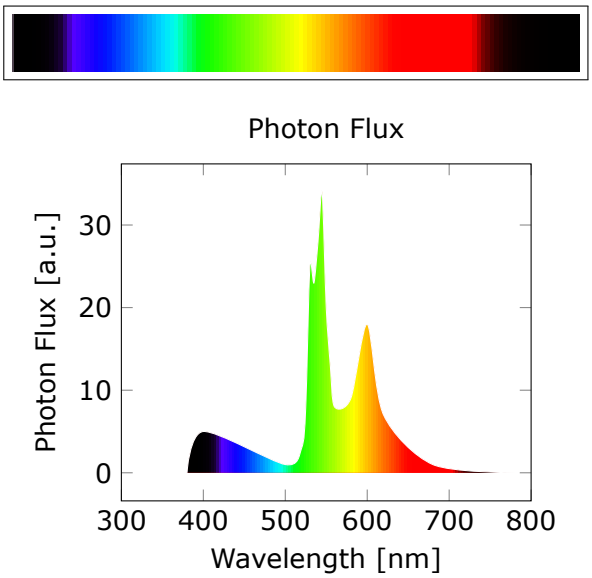
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade end=600]{visiblespectrum}

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=visiblespectrum] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[%
    title= Photon Flux,%
    xlabel={Wavelength [nm]},%
    ylabel={Photon Flux [a.u.]},%
    xmin=300,%
    xmax=600,%
]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,draw=none] plot[] coordinates{%
    ( 380, 0 ) (400,5) ( 500, 1 ) ( 520, 3 ) ( 525, 8 ) ( 530, 25 )
    ( 535, 23 ) ( 540, 28 ) ( 545, 34 ) ( 550, 20 ) ( 555, 13 )
    ( 560, 8 ) ( 580, 9 ) ( 600, 18 )
};
\path[name path=axis] (380,0) -- (600,0);
\addplot+ [thick,shading=visiblespectrum]
    fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}%
```



\pgfspectraplotshade[gamma=10]{visiblespectrumGammaX}

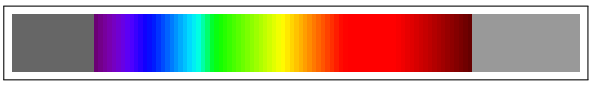
```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=visiblespectrumGammaX] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[%
    title= Photon Flux,%
    xlabel={Wavelength [nm]},%
    ylabel={Photon Flux [a.u.]},%
    xmin=300,%
    xmax=800,%
]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,white] plot[] coordinates{%
    ( 380, 0 ) (400,5) ( 500, 1 ) ( 520, 3 ) ( 525, 8 ) ( 530, 25 )
    ( 535, 23 ) ( 540, 28 ) ( 545, 34 ) ( 550, 20 ) ( 555, 13 )
    ( 560, 8 ) ( 580, 9 ) ( 600, 18 ) ( 620, 7 ) ( 680, 1 ) ( 780, 0 )
};
\path[name path=axis] (380,0) -- (780,0);
\addplot+ [thick,shading=visiblespectrumGammaX]
    fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}%
```

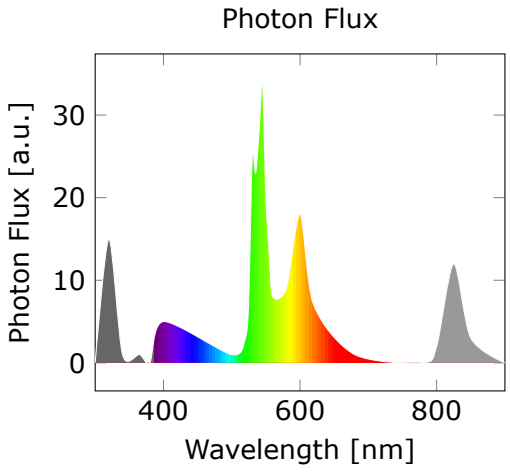


Note: when setting the color for IR or UV within \pgfspectraplotshade make sure it doesn't end with '!<number>' like 'black!40'; use 'black!40!white' instead.

```
\pgfspectraplotshade[IRcolor=black!40!white,UVcolor=black!60!white,shade begin=300,shade end=900]{visiblespectrumIRUV}
```

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=visiblespectrumIRUV] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[%
    title= Photon Flux,%
    xlabel={Wavelength [nm]},%
    ylabel={Photon Flux [a.u.]},%
    xmin=300,%
    xmax=900,%
]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,white] plot[] coordinates{%
    ( 300 , 0) (320, 15) (340, 1) (365, 1)
    ( 380, 2.5 ) (400,5) ( 500, 1 ) ( 520, 3 ) ( 525, 8 ) ( 530, 25 )
    ( 535, 23 ) ( 540, 28 ) ( 545, 34 ) ( 550, 20 ) ( 555, 13 )
    ( 560, 8 ) ( 580, 9 ) ( 600, 18 ) ( 620, 7 ) ( 680, 1 ) ( 780, 0 )
    ( 800, 2 ) (825, 12) (850, 3) ( 900, 0 )
};
\path[name path=axis] (300,0) -- (900,0);
\addplot+ [thick,shading=visiblespectrumIRUV]
    fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}%
```





For the *blackbody spectral radiance*, the Planck's distribution is used with the values:

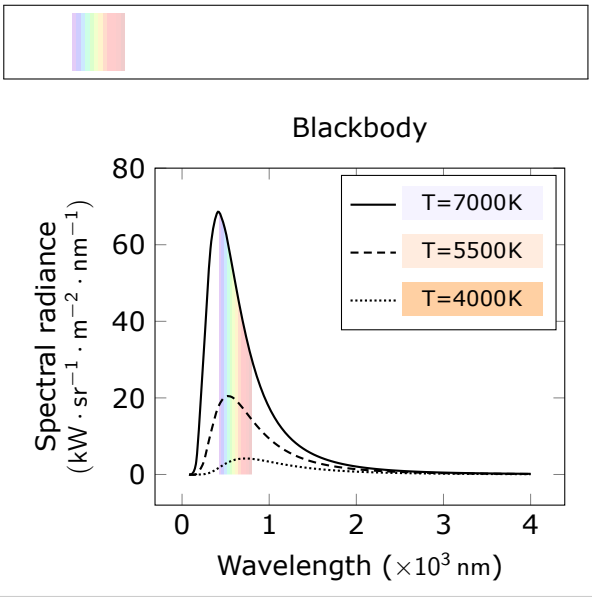
- $c = 3 \times 10^{14}$ microns $\cdot\, s^{-1}$ – speed of light
- $h = 6.626 \times 10^{22}$ kg $\cdot$ microns^2 $\cdot\, s^{-1}$ – Planck constant
- $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-11}$ kg $\cdot$ microns^2 $\cdot\, s^{-2} \cdot K^{-1}$ – Boltzmann constant
- λ – wavelength (microns)
- T – temperature (K)
- Planck distribution: $B_\lambda = 2hc^2 \frac{1}{\lambda^5 e^{\frac{hc}{\lambda k_B T}} - 1}$ (kW $\cdot$ sr^{-1} $\cdot$ m^{-1} $\cdot$ nm^{-1})

The legend of the plots is created with the following definition:

```
\def\myentry#1{\tempercolor{#1}%
\tikz{\fill[tempercolor] (0,-.5pt) rectangle (40pt,.5pt)
    node[midway,font=\footnotesize,anchor=mid] {\color{black} T=#1\hspace{.1ex}K};}}%
```

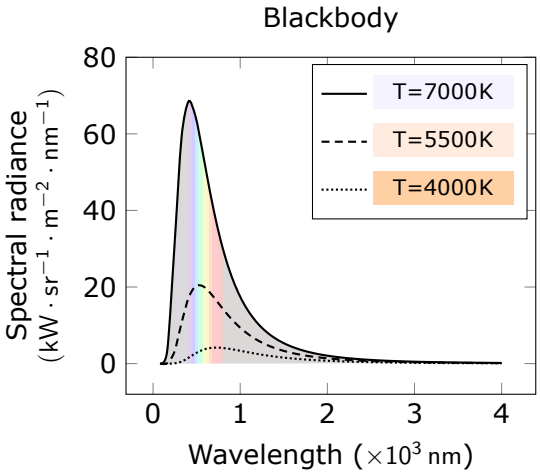
```
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=0,shade end=4000,IRcolor=white,UVcolor=white,
gamma=.6,shade opacity=.2]{BBody}
```

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=BBody] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[title=Blackbody,xlabel={Wavelength ($\mathsf{\times10^3\,nm}$)},%
    ylabel={Spectral radiance\\
        $\mathsf{(kW\cdot sr^{-1}\cdot m^{-2}\cdot nm^{-1})}$},%
    ylabel style={align=center},ymax=80,domain=0:4]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,black,samples=50,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*7000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{7000}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dashed,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*5500))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{5500}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dotted,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*4000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{4000}}%
\path[name path=axis] (axis cs:0,0) -- (axis cs:1,0);
\addplot+ [white,shading=BBody] fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}\end{tikzpicture}%
```



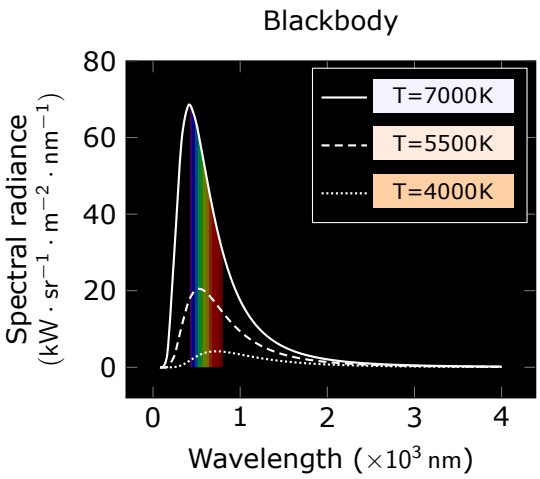
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=0,shade end=4000,shade opacity=.2, gamma=.6]{BBody}

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=BBody] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[title=Blackbody,xlabel={Wavelength ($\mathsf{\times10^3\,nm}$)},%
    ylabel={Spectral radiance\\
        $\mathsf{(kW\cdot sr^{-1}\cdot m^{-2}\cdot nm^{-1})}$},%
    ylabel style={align=center},ymax=80,domain=0:4]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,black,samples=50,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*7000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{7000}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dashed,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*5500))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{5500}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dotted,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*4000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{4000}}%
\path[name path=axis] (axis cs:0,0) -- (axis cs:1,0);
\addplot+ [white,shading=BBody] fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}\end{tikzpicture}%
```



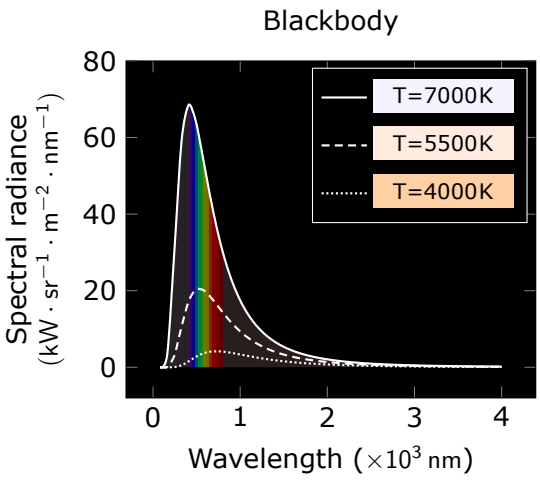
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=0,shade end=4000,IRcolor=black,UVcolor=black, gamma=.6,shade opacity=.5,shade opacity color=black]{BBody}

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=BBody] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[
    axis background/.style={fill=black},%
    legend style={fill=black,draw=white},%
    title=Blackbody,xlabel={Wavelength ($\mathsf{\times10^3\,nm}$)},%
    ylabel={Spectral radiance\\
        $\mathsf{(kW\cdot sr^{-1}\cdot m^{-2}\cdot nm^{-1})}$},%
    ylabel style={align=center},ymax=80,domain=0:4]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,black,samples=50,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*7000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{7000}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dashed,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*5500))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{5500}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dotted,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*4000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{4000}}%
\path[name path=axis] (axis cs:0,0) -- (axis cs:1,0);
\addplot+ [black,shading=BBody] fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}\end{tikzpicture}%
```



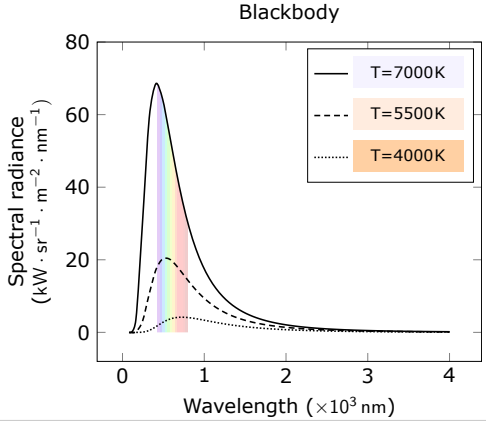
\pgfspectraplotshade[shade begin=0,shade end=4000,shade opacity=.5, gamma=.6,shade opacity color=black]{BBody}

```
\makebox[\linewidth][c]{%
\fbox{\tikz{\fill[shading=BBody] (0,0) rectangle (7.5,.75);}}%
}%
\\ [10pt]\\ \begin{tikzpicture}
\begin{axis}[
    axis background/.style={fill=black},%
    legend style={fill=black,draw=white},%
    title=Blackbody,xlabel={Wavelength ($\mathsf{\times10^3\,nm}$)},%
    ylabel={Spectral radiance\\
        $\mathsf{(kW\cdot sr^{-1}\cdot m^{-2}\cdot nm^{-1})}$},%
    ylabel style={align=center},ymax=80,domain=0:4]%
\addplot[smooth, name path=spectrum,black,samples=50,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*7000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{7000}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dashed,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*5500))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{5500}}%
\addplot[smooth,black,samples=50,densely dotted,thick] plot[]
    {119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(x*4000))-1))};\addlegendentry{\myentry{4000}}%
\path[name path=axis] (axis cs:0,0) -- (axis cs:1,0);
\addplot+ [black,shading=BBody] fill between[of=spectrum and axis];
\end{axis}\end{tikzpicture}%
```



The above examples could be obtained with a much functional and prettier code, also proposed by Stefan Pinnow:

```
\begin{tikzpicture}[
    /pgf/declare function={
        BlackBodySpectralRadiance(\x,\T) = 119.268/(x^5*(exp(14404/(\x*\T))-1));
    },
]
        \pgfspectraplotshade[
            shade begin=0,
            shade end=4000,
            IRcolor=white,
            UVcolor=white,
            gamma=.6,
            shade opacity=.2,
        ]{BBody}
        \def\myentry#1{\tempercolor{#1}%
            \tikz{\fill [tempercolor] (0,-.5pt) rectangle (40pt,.5pt)
                node [midway,font=\footnotesize,anchor=mid]
                    {\color{black} $T = #1\,\mathrm{K}$};}%
        }
    \begin{axis}[
        title=Blackbody,
        xlabel={Wavelength in $\mathrm{10^3\,nm}$},
        ylabel={%
            Spectral radiance in\\
            $\mathrm{kW\cdot sr^{-1}\cdot m^{-2}\cdot nm^{-1}}$%
        },
        ylabel style={align=center},
        ymax=80,
        cycle list name=linestyles,
        domain=0:4,
        samples=51,
        smooth,
    ]
        \pgfplotsinvokeforeach{7000,5500,4000}{
            \addplot+ [thick,name path=spectrum-#1] {BlackBodySpectralRadiance(x,#1)};
                \addlegendentry{\myentry{#1}}
        }
        \path [name path=axis] (axis cs:0,0) -- (axis cs:4,0);
        \addplot [shading=BBody] fill between [of=spectrum-7000 and axis];
    \end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
```



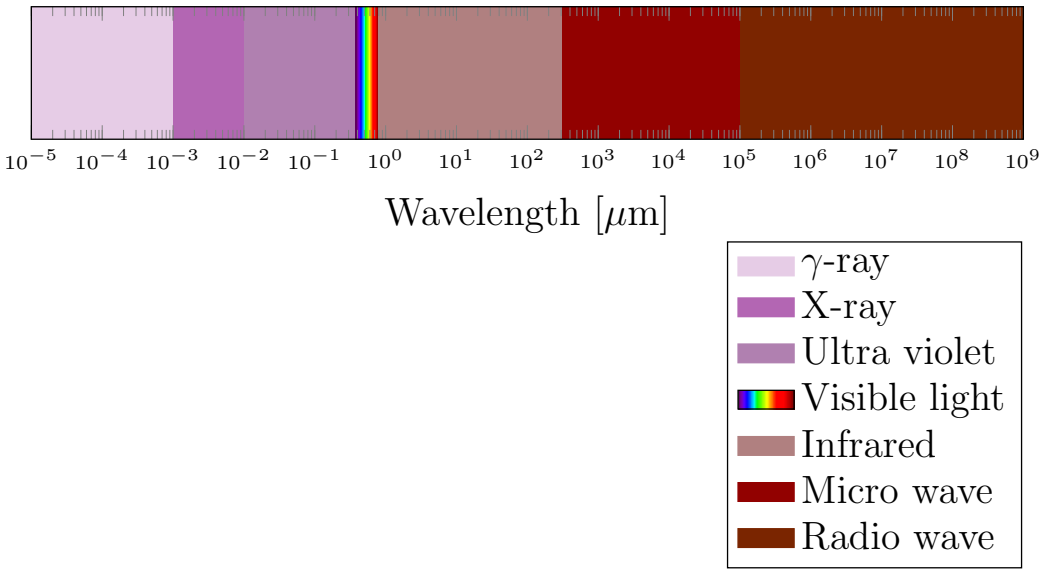
The logarithmic option of the \pgfspectraplotshade command could be used as a possible solution for the TeX - LaTeX Stack Exchange question, How to create a electromagnetic spectrum using pgfplots package (together with colormaps).

Filling optical spectrum curve with color gradient (first answer)

The original code lines that was replaced, in this possible answer, are commented.

```
\documentclass[12pt]{article}
\usepackage[dvipsnames,table]{xcolor}
\usepackage{siunitx} % SI-units
\usepackage{pgf-spectra}
\usepackage{pgfplots}
\usepgfplotslibrary{units} % to add units easily to axis
\usepgfplotslibrary{fillbetween} % to fill inbetween curves
\usepgfplotslibrary{colormaps} % to create colormaps
\pgfplotsset{width=12.2cm, height=7cm}
\pgfplotsset{compat=newest} %(making it only compatalbe with
                %new releases of pgfplots)
%\pgfdeclarehorizontalshading{visiblelight}{50bp}{
%color(0.00000000000000bp)=(violet);
%color(8.33333333333333bp)=(blue);
%color(16.66666666666670bp)=(cyan);
%color(25.00000000000000bp)=(green);
%color(33.33333333333330bp)=(yellow);
%color(41.66666666666670bp)=(orange);
%color(50.00000000000000bp)=(red)
%}%
%
% make the horizontal shading and set the UV and IR colors -->
%\pgfspectraStyle[gamma=.6]% uncomment to change the gamma
\wlcolor{380}\colorlet{UV}{wlcolor}%
\wlcolor{780}\colorlet{IR}{wlcolor}%
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic, UVcolor=UV]{logvisiblelight}
\pgfspectraplotshade{visiblelight}
%\pgfspectraStyleReset% uncomment to reset the style
\begin{document}
\begin{tikzpicture}[fill between/on layer={axis grid}]
\begin{axis}[
    xlabel={Wavelength},
    xticklabel style = {font=\tiny,yshift=0.2ex},
    xmin=10^-5,
    xmax=10^9,
    x unit=\si{\micro\meter},
    xmode=log,
    ymin=0,
    ymax=1,
    height=3cm,
    yticklabels={},
    ytick=\empty,
    legend cell align=left,
    legend style={at={(0.85,-0.77)},anchor=north}
]
```

```
\addplot[draw=none, name path=start, forget plot] coordinates{(10^-5,0)(10^-5,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=gamma, forget plot] coordinates{(10^-3,0)(10^-3,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=xrays, forget plot] coordinates{(10^-2,0)(10^-2,1)};
%\addplot[draw=none, name path=uv, forget plot] coordinates{(0.4,0)(0.4,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=uv, forget plot] coordinates{(0.38,0)(0.38,1)};
%\addplot[draw=none, name path=visible, forget plot] coordinates{(0.7,0)(0.7,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=visible, forget plot] coordinates{(0.78,0)(0.78,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=ir, forget plot] coordinates{(10^2.5,0)(10^2.5,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=microwave, forget plot] coordinates{(10^5,0)(10^5,1)};
\addplot[draw=none, name path=radiowave, forget plot] coordinates{(10^9,0)(10^9,1)};
\addplot[violet!20, area legend] fill between[of=start and gamma];
\addlegendentry{$\gamma$-ray}
\addplot[violet!60, area legend] fill between[of=gamma and xrays];
\addlegendentry{X-ray}
%\addplot[violet, area legend] fill between[of=xrays and uv];
\addplot[UV!50,area legend] fill between[of=xrays and uv];
\addlegendentry{Ultra violet}
\addplot[shading=visiblelight, area legend] fill between[of=uv and visible];
\addlegendentry{Visible light}%makes the correct legend (not logarithmic)
\addplot[shading=logvisiblelight,forget plot] fill between[of=uv and visible];
%\addplot[red, area legend] fill between[of=visible and ir];
\addplot[IR!50,area legend] fill between[of=visible and ir];
\addlegendentry{Infrared}
%\addplot[Bittersweet, area legend] fill between[of=ir and microwave];
\addplot[IR!50!Bittersweet, area legend] fill between[of=ir and microwave];
\addlegendentry{Micro wave}
\addplot[Brown, area legend] fill between[of=microwave and radiowave];
\addlegendentry{Radio wave}
\end{axis}
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{document}
```

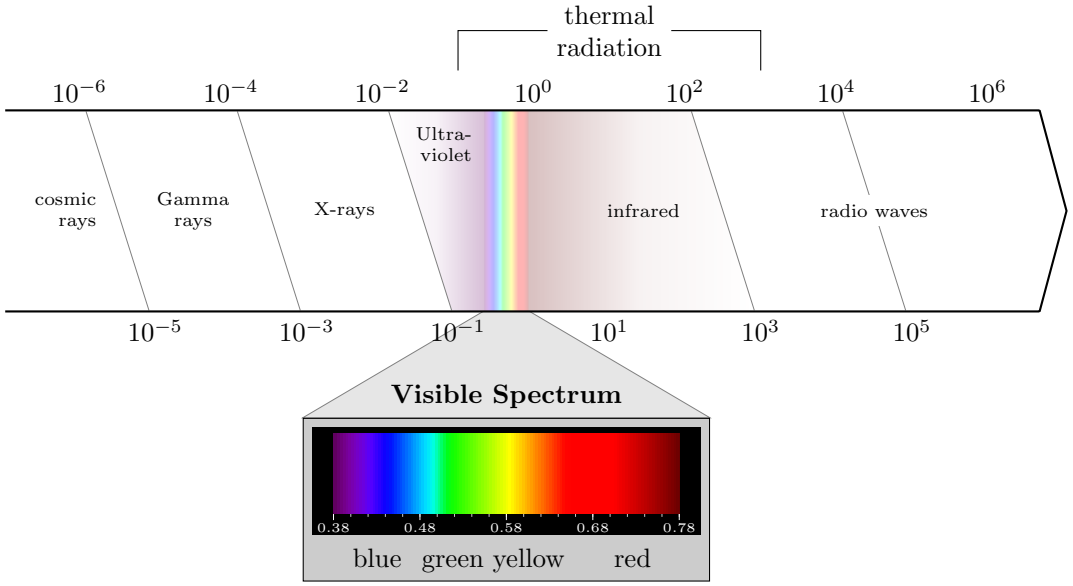


Filling optical spectrum curve with color gradient (second answer)

The original code lines that was replaced, in this possible answer, are commented and the code without changes was omitted.

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{tikz}
\usetikzlibrary{calc, positioning, shapes, backgrounds, fit, arrows}
\usepackage{pgf-spectra}
\usepackage{siunitx}
\usepackage{contour}
\begin{document}
%\pgfdeclarehorizontalshading{visiblelight}{50bp}{%
                            %https://tex.stackexchange.com/a/348492/120853
%    color(0bp)=(violet!25);
%    color(8.33bp)=(blue!25);
%    color(16.67bp)=(cyan!25);
%    color(25bp)=(green!25);
%    color(33.33bp)=(yellow!25);
%    color(41.5bp)=(orange!25);
%    color(50bp)=(red!25)
%}%
%
% make the horizontal shading and set the UV and IR colors -->
%\pgfspectraStyle[gamma=.6]% uncomment to change the gamma
\wlcolor{380}\colorlet{UV}{wlcolor}%
\wlcolor{780}\colorlet{IR}{wlcolor}%
\pgfspectraplotshade[logarithmic,shade opacity=.3]{visiblelight}%
%\pgfspectraStyleReset% uncomment to reset the style
\begin{tikzpicture}[%
        raylabel/.style={font=\scriptsize}
    ]
% ...  code omitted ... %
    % On background layer so already drawn arrow and scale lines cover it up nicely
    \begin{scope}[on background layer]
            \node[
            inner sep=0pt,
            outer sep=0pt,
            %fit={([xshift=-2.2em]WAVELENGTH_0|-ARROW.after tail)
            %([xshift=-2.2em]WAVELENGTH_1|-ARROW.before tail)}, shading=visiblelight]
            fit={([xshift=-1.9em]WAVELENGTH_0|-ARROW.after tail)
            ([xshift=-3em]WAVELENGTH_1|-ARROW.before tail)}, shading=visiblelight]%
            (SMALL_VISIBLE_LIGHT) {};
        \shade[
            left color=white,
            %right color=violet!25,
            right color=UV!25,
            %middle color=violet!5,
            middle color=UV!5,
            outer sep=0pt
            ]
            % ...  code omitted ... %
        \shade[
            %left color=red!25,
            left color=IR!25,
            right color=white,
            %middle color=red!5,
            middle color=IR!5,
            outer sep=0pt,
            ]
            % ...  code omitted ... %
    \end{scope}
```

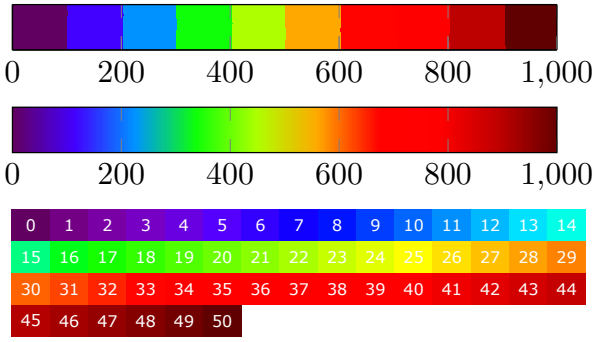
```
    % Some labels can be drawn automatically at the designated label coordinates:
    \foreach [count=\i] \label in {
            {Gamma\\rays},
            {X-rays},
            {},%Skip this one
            {infrared}
        }{
            \node[raylabel, align=center] at (LABEL_\i) {\label};
        }
    % These do not fit the loop and are drawn manually:
    \node[raylabel, align=right, anchor=north] at
            ([yshift=-1em,xshift=-2.5pt]$(WAVELENGTH_-2)!0.45!(WAVELENGTH_0)$)
            {Ultra-\\violet};
    \node[raylabel, fill=white] at (CONNECTION_6) {radio waves};
    \node[raylabel, left=0.1em of CONNECTION_1, align=right] {cosmic\\rays};
    \node[
        draw,
        fill=black!20,
        below=4em of SMALL_VISIBLE_LIGHT,
        align=center,
        label=above:{\textbf{Visible Spectrum}}
        ] (FULL_VISIBLE_LIGHT) {%
        %\pgfspectra[width=13em,height=3em]\\
        \pgfspectra[width=13em,height=3em,axis,axis unit=micron,axis step=100,
                    axis ticks=4,axis unit precision=2]\\%
            %pgfspectra also has a builtin axis which of course much better than
            %this terrible approach, but it is in nanometer
            {\num{0.38} \hfill\num{0.48} \hfill\num{0.58}%
                \hfill \num{0.68} \hfill\num{0.78}}\\
    };
% ...  code omitted ... %
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{document}
```



Next examples show possible usage of color maps feature of PGFPLOTS with the color map build with the \pgfspectraplotmap command:

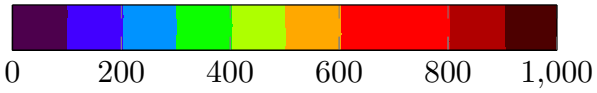
\pgfspectraplotmap{myColorMap}% default resolution (51 colors)

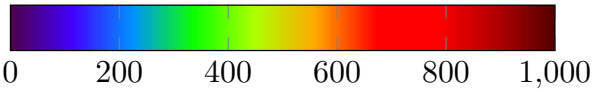
```
\pgfplotscolorbardrawstandalone[colormap={example}%
        {samples of colormap=(10 of myColorMap)},
colorbar horizontal,colormap access=const]
\\ \pgfplotscolorbardrawstandalone[colormap={example}%
        {samples of colormap=(10 of myColorMap)},
colorbar horizontal,colormap access=map]
% --- code improved by Stefan Pinnow --->
\begin{tikzpicture}
    \foreach \i [
        evaluate=\i as \x using {int(mod(\i,15))},
        evaluate=\i as \y using {floor(\i/15)},
    ] in {0,...,\pgfplotscolormaplastindexof{myColorMap}}{
        \fill [index of colormap={\i of myColorMap}]
            (\x*12pt,-\y*10pt) rectangle ++(12pt,10pt)
                node [inner sep=0pt,midway,font=\tiny,text=white] {\i};
    }
\end{tikzpicture}
```



\pgfspectraplotmap[h]{myColorMap}% high resolution (401 colors)
% color(0) -> 380nm color(1) -> 381nm ... color(60) -> 380+60=440nm ...
% ... color(400) -> 780nm

```
\pgfplotscolorbardrawstandalone[colormap={example}%
        {samples of colormap=(10 of myColorMapH)},
colorbar horizontal,colormap access=const]
\\ \pgfplotscolorbardrawstandalone[colormap={example}%
        {samples of colormap=(10 of myColorMapH)},
colorbar horizontal,colormap access=map]
% --- code improved by Stefan Pinnow --->
\begin{tikzpicture}
    \foreach \i [
        evaluate=\i as \x using {int(mod(\i,15))},
        evaluate=\i as \y using {floor(\i/15)},
    ] in {0,...,\pgfplotscolormaplastindexof{myColorMap}}{
        \fill [index of colormap={\i of myColorMap}]
            (\x*12pt,-\y*10pt) rectangle ++(12pt,10pt)
                node [inner sep=0pt,midway,font=\tiny,text=white] {\i};
    }
\end{tikzpicture}
```





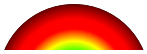
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74
75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89
90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104
105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119
120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134
135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149
150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164
165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179
180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194
195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209
210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224
225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239
240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254
255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269
270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284
285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299
300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314
315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329
330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344
345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359
360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374
375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389
390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400				

▸ Using \pgfspectrarainbow

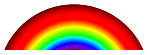
Here are some examples of rainbows:

```
\pgfspectrarainbow{1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow start=0){1cm}
```

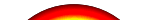


```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow start=.4){1cm}
```



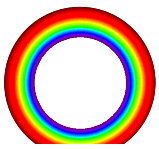
```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow start=.8){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=.8){1cm}
```



```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=0){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow knock out=-.8){1cm}
```



```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow transparency=.5){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow background=white){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow background=blue,rainbow transparency=.5){1cm}
```

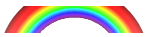
```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow background=black,rainbow transparency=.5){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow background=white,rainbow transparency=.5){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow fade=south){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow(rainbow fade=north){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow[white,path fading=south]{1cm}
```



```
\pgfspectrarainbow[white](rainbow fade=south){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow[orange,path fading=west](rainbow fade=south){1cm}
```

```
\pgfspectrarainbow[blue,xslant=.1,opacity=.2]{1cm}
```

Alphabetical list of available options

\pgfspectra

key	description	type	default	value(s)
absorption	minimum intensity for the lines in the spectrum when using their relative intensities	boolean	false	{true, false}
axis	show or hide the axis	boolean	false	{true, false}
axis color	color of the axis	color	black	any named color or user defined color
axis font	font of the axis labels	font commands	{\tiny}	TEX font commands
axis font color	color of the axis labels	color	white	any named color or user defined color
axis step	interval in nanometres between two major axis ticks	integer	20	[0;|end-begin|]nm
axis ticks	number of minor ticks	integer	0	{0,1,2,3,. . . }
axis unit	unit of the axis labels	text	nm	nm or micron or A
axis unit precision	number of significant digits (for values in nanometres) shown in axis labels	integer	3	{0,1,2,3,. . . }
back	spectrum background color	color	black	any named color or user defined color
backIRUV	IR and UV emission lines color in emission spectrum or background color of IR and UV regions in absorption spectrum	color	black	any named color or user defined color
backVIS	visible region background color in emission spectrum or emission lines color in absorption spectrum	color	black	any named color or user defined color
begin	first wavelength, in nanometres	integer	380	[10;4000]nm
brightness	brightness color correction as in the CMYK color model	decimal	1	[0;1]
charge	charge of the element(s)	integer	0	LSE Data: {0,1,2,3,4} NIST Data: {0,1}
element	chemical symbol of one element or comma sparated list of chemical symbols elements	text	NONE	H to Es except Fr
end	last wavelength, in nanometres	integer	780	[10;4000]nm
gamma	gamma color correction at the edges of the visible region	decimal	0.8	[0;1]
height	spectrum height	length	1cm	up to maximum TEX dimension (16384pt)
Imin	minimum intensity of the lines	decimal	0	[0;1]
IRcolor	IR emission lines color in emission spectrum or background color of IR region in absorption spectrum	color	rgb(.3157,.2373, .2373)	any named color or user defined color
label	show or hide the axis labels	boolean	false	{true, false}
label after text	extra text to place after the label of the spectrum	text	{}	
label before text	extra text to place before the label of the spectrum	text	{}	
label font	font of the spectrum label	font commands	{\bfseries\small}	
label font color	color of the font of the spectrum label	color	black	any named color or user defined color
label position	position of the label of the spectrum	text	{west}	{west, north west, north, north east, east, south east, south, south west}
line intensity	draw all lines with the same intensity value	integer	100	{0,1,2,. . . ,99,100}
line width	width of each line drawn in the spectrum	length	1pt	up to maximum TEX dimension (16384pt)

\pgfspectra (continuation)

key	description	type	default	value(s)
lines	number or comma sparated list of numbers	integer or decimal	{}	[10;4000]nm
redshift	computes and draws the redshifted (or blueshifted) lines	text	{}	numeric value or {numeric value 1/numeric value 2}
relative intensity	draws the lines using their relative intensities	boolean	false	{true, false}
relative intensity threshold	all lines with intensity	decimal	0.25	[0;1]
show redshift value	show or hide the redshift value	boolean	false	{true, false}
use visible shading	visible region is drawn using a shading (instead of line by line)	boolean	true	{true, false}
UVcolor	UV emission lines color in emission spectrum or background color of UV region in absorption spectrum	color	rgb(.3,.2568,.3)	any named color or user defined color
width	spectrum width	length	{0.9\textwidth}	up to maximum TEX dimension (16384pt)

\pgfspectraplotshade

key	description	type	default	value(s)
shade begin	first wavelength, in nanometres	integer	380	[0;15999]nm
shade end	last wavelength, in nanometres	integer	780	[1;16000]nm
shade opacity	opacity of the computed shade	decimal	1	[0;1]
shade opacity color	background color of the computed shading	color	white	any named color or user defined color
logarithmic	the shading is build in a logarithmic scale	boolean	false	{true, false}

\pgfspectrarainbow

key	description	type	default	value(s)
rainbow background	background color below the rainbow	color	white	any named color or user defined color
rainbow fade	scope fading in the clipped region	text	{}	any named TikZ fading or user defined fading
rainbow knock out	relative distance from the half-circle base to perform the clip	decimal	.4	[-1;1]
rainbow start	fraction from which the rainbow colors begin, relative to the center of a circle with radius 1	decimal	.6	[0;1]
rainbow transparency	overall transparency of the rainbow	decimal	0	[0;1]

Recommendations and known issues

The code could be a bit slow, so if there are many spectra to draw, the time consumption to get them could be high. In that case it's preferable to compile individual spectrum via the *preview* package, for later inclusion with `\includegraphics{<filename>.pdf}`:

```
% <filename>.tex
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{pgf-spectra}
\usepackage[active,tightpage]{preview}
\PreviewEnvironment{tikzpicture}
\setlength\PreviewBorder{1pt}%
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
\begin{document}
\pgfspectra[element=H, width=15cm]
\end{document}
```

Hint for TEX 'limits':

If tex capacity exceeded when running...
«! TeX capacity exceeded, sorry [main memory size=2000001].»
just make a \newpage at the point of origin of the message (ejecting the page releases the TEX memory!)

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