

ANNOUNCEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ABSOLUTE CALIBRATION FOR HIGH DISPERSION
IUE SPECTRA AND CONSEQUENT MEHI FILE FORMAT CHANGES

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The absolute flux calibration described in the ESA IUE Newsletter No. 31, 1989 and in the NASA IUE Newsletter No. 41, June 1990 (Cassatella et al., p. 155), has been implemented in IUESIPS at GSFC. This calibration is being applied to the orders of all high dispersion data now being obtained.

The implementation began at GSFC on 30 August, 1990. It began at VILSPA on 21 December, 1987.

Of particular importance to users of data obtained prior to this implementation is the change in MEHI file structure. The output using this new calibration is included as a SEVENTH record in the data set of each order. Further changes include changes in the label to reflect the change in the data set size, and new entries included in Record Zero. Previous users of IUE data should alter software they have developed to handle the new format if new IUE observations are acquired at GSFC. Full details on these changes can be found in the article by T. Martin in ESA IUE Newsletter No. 31, 1989, p. 25 or in NASA IUE Newsletter No. 41, June 1990, p. 147.