SkyServer Voyages Journal

Name			
Class	 	 	

Launch to the Milky Way – Comparing Curves

Don't forget to record data and observations as you work through this activity. All of the questions and reminders from the activity are listed in order below.

- 1. What is a spectrograph? What kinds of data are produced by this technology?
- In this activity you will use spectrographic data. There is a lot of information contained in a spectrum. The overall shape or continuum of the graph is our focus here. What do you know about the continuum of a spectrum graph? Review Preflight – SDSS Spectrum Graphs if you need help.

- 3. Record your starting place in the sky for this activity.
- 4. Describe the differences you observe between spectra with different signalto-noise ratios.

5. You have been given the task of observing and sorting spectra. Describe the method you used to sort the spectra.

- 6. What are the results of your sorting? What do you observe?
- 7. Look for Patterns. The features and patterns you observe are related to the objects that produced them. Use any information you observe directly from the spectra or the information on the page to uncover any relationships. Don't worry if you don't understand all the bits of information; just seek out those patterns. What you find will lead you to your next question and launch your next voyage.

8. List any questions that arise. What would you like to know next?

9. What resources or activities within or outside of Voyages could you use to explore these questions?