

VALD – THE VIENNA ATOMIC LINE DATABASE: A SURVEY

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Abstract. We give a short description of the concepts behind the Vienna Atomic Line Database (VALD), followed by a guided tour through its extraction facilities. Rather than being just a collection of data from the literature, new data for VALD are first investigated by a comparison to spectral line data from different sources in the literature (whenever available) or by applying them to astrophysical test problems. Then, a ranking is provided according to the performance of the data and the entire data source, before the data are finally made accessible to the users community. Beyond evaluation by the VALD team, new software tools in VALD provide now also for a customization of data ranking even during external (remote) access.