

Requirement rationale

Continuum flatness

- Clean calibration signal above noise
 - Min number of electron per pixel row : 10 000 e⁻
- Avoid high intensity non-linear effects
 - Max number of electron per pixel row : 168 000 e⁻
- Ratio of DESI throughput across spectral range = 5
 - Max ratio of counts across the spectrograph spectral range = 3

Typical continuum lamp spectrum is not flat. For the current lamps available at the Mayall, “low flux” lamps have a blue filter to balance their spectrum.

An other option could be to use several exposures with different exposure time for each band.

