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# **mdfreader Documentation**

***Release 1.4***

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## MDF MODULE DOCUMENTATION

mdf\_skeleton module describing basic mdf structure and methods

Created on Thu Sept 24 2015

### 1.1 Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

**Author** Aymeric Rateau

### 1.2 Dependencies

- Python >2.6, >3.2 <<http://www.python.org>>
- Numpy >1.6 <<http://numpy.scipy.org>>

### 1.3 mdf module

```
class mdf.mdf_skeleton (fileName=None, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True, filterChannel-  
Names=False)
```

Bases: dict

mdf\_skeleton class

## Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
MDFVersionNumber	(int) mdf file version number
master-Channel-List	(dict) Represents data structure: a key per master channel with corresponding value containing a list of channels One key or master channel represents then a data group having same sampling interval.
multiProc	(bool) Flag to request channel conversion multi processed for performance improvement. One thread per data group.
convertAfterRead	(bool) flag to convert raw data to physical just after read
filterChannelNames	(bool) flag to filter long channel names from its module names separated by '.'
file_metadata	(dict) file metadata with minimum keys : author, organisation, project, subject, comment, time, date

## Methods

add_channel(channel_name, data, master_channel, master_type=1, unit='', description='', conversion=None)	adds channel to mdf dict
remove_channel(channel_name)	removes channel from mdf dict and returns its content
copy()	copy a mdf class
add_metadata(author, organisation, project, subject, comment, date, time)	adds basic metadata from file

**add\_channel** (*dataGroup*, *channel\_name*, *data*, *master\_channel*, *master\_type*=1, *unit*='', *description*='', *conversion*=None, *info*=None)  
adds channel to mdf dict.

**Parameters** *dataGroup* : int

*dataGroup* number. Is appended to master name for non unique channel names

**channel\_name** : str

channel name

**data** : numpy array

numpy array of channel's data

**master\_channel** : str

master channel name

**master\_type** : int, optional

master channel type : 0=None, 1=Time, 2=Angle, 3=Distance, 4=index

**unit** : str, optional

unit description

**description** : str, optional

channel description



**conversion** : info class, optional

conversion description from info class

**info** : info class for CNBlock, optional

used for CABlock axis creation and channel conversion

**add\_metadata** (*author='', organisation='', project='', subject='', comment='', date='', time=''*)  
adds basic metadata to mdf class

**Parameters** **author** : str

author of file

**organisation** : str

organisation of author

**project** : str

**subject** : str

**comment** : str

**date** : str

**time** : str

**copy** ()  
copy a mdf class

**getChannel** (*channelName*)  
Extract channel dict from mdf structure

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** channel dictionnary containing data, description, unit, etc.

**getChannelConversion** (*channelName*)  
Extract channel conversion dict from mdf structure

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** channel conversion dict

**getChannelDesc** (*channelName*)  
Extract channel description information from mdf structure

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** channel description string

**getChannelMaster** (*channelName*)  
Extract channel master name from mdf structure

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** channel master name string

**getChannelMasterType** (*channelName*)

Extract channel master type information from mdf structure

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** channel mater type integer

**getChannelUnit** (*channelName*)

Returns channel unit string Implemented for a future integration of pint

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** str

unit string description

**remove\_channel** (*channel\_name*)

removes channel from mdf dict.

**Parameters** **channel\_name** : str

channel name

**Returns** value of mdf dict key=channel\_name

**remove\_channel\_conversion** (*channelName*)

removes conversion key from mdf channel dict.

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**Returns** removed value from dict

**setChannelAttachment** (*channelName, attachment*)

Modifies channel attachment

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**attachment**

channel attachment

**setChannelConversion** (*channelName, conversion*)

Modifies conversion dict of channel

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**conversion** : dict

conversion dictionary

**setChannelData** (*channelName, data*)

Modifies data of channel

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**data** : numpy array

channel data

**setChannelDesc** (*channelName*, *desc*)

Modifies description of channel

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**desc** : str

channel description

**setChannelMaster** (*channelName*, *master*)

Modifies channel master name

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**master** : str

master channel name

**setChannelMasterType** (*channelName*, *masterType*)

Modifies master channel type

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**masterType** : int

master channel type

**setChannelUnit** (*channelName*, *unit*)

Modifies unit of channel

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

**unit** : str

channel unit



## MDFREADER MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format file reader main module

### 2.1 Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

**Author** Aymeric Rateau

Created on Sun Oct 10 12:57:28 2010

### 2.2 Dependencies

- Python >2.6, >3.2 <<http://www.python.org>>
- Numpy >1.6 <<http://numpy.scipy.org>>
- Sympy to convert channels with formula
- bitarray for not byte aligned data parsing
- Matplotlib >1.0 <<http://matplotlib.sourceforge.net>>
- NetCDF
- h5py for the HDF5 export
- xlwt for the excel export (not existing for python3)
- openpyxl for the excel 2007 export
- scipy for the Matlab file conversion
- zlib to uncompress data block if needed

### 2.3 Attributes

**PythonVersion** [float] Python version currently running, needed for compatibility of both python 2.6+ and 3.2+

## 2.4 mdfreader module

```
class mdfreader.mdf (fileName=None,  channelList=None,  convertAfterRead=True,  filterChannel-
                      Names=False)
    Bases: mdf3reader.mdf3, mdf4reader.mdf4
    mdf class
```

### Notes

mdf class is a nested dict Channel name is the primary dict key of mdf class At a higher level, each channel includes the following keys :

- ‘data’ : containing vector of data (numpy)
- ‘unit’ : unit (string)
- ‘master’ : master channel of channel (time, crank angle, etc.)
- ‘description’ : Description of channel
- ‘conversion’: **mdfinfo nested dict for CCBlock**. Exist if channel not converted, used to convert with getChannelData method

### Examples

```
>>> import mdfreader
>>> yop=mdfreader.mdf('NameOfFile')
>>> yop.keys() # list channels names
>>> yop.masterChannelList() # list channels grouped by raster or master channel
>>> yop.plot('channelName') or yop.plot({'channel1','channel2'})
>>> yop.resample(0.1) or yop.resample(channelName='master3')
>>> yop.exporttoCSV(sampling=0.01)
>>> yop.exportNetCDF()
>>> yop.exporttoHDF5()
>>> yop.exporttoMatlab()
>>> yop.exporttoExcel()
>>> yop.exporttoXlsx()
>>> yop.convertToPandas() # converts data groups into pandas dataframes
>>> yop.write() # writes mdf file
>>> yop.keepChannels({'channel1','channel2','channel3'}) # drops all the channels_
↳except the one in argument
>>> yop.getChannelData('channelName') # returns channel numpy array
```

## Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
MDFVersionNumber	(int) mdf file version number
masterChannelList	(dict) Represents data structure: a key per master channel with corresponding value containing a list of channels One key or master channel represents then a data group having same sampling interval.
multiProc	(bool) Flag to request channel conversion multi processed for performance improvement. One thread per data group.
file_metadata	(dict) file metadata with minimum keys : author, organisation, project, subject, comment, time, date

## Methods

read( fileName = None, multiProc = False, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True, filterChannelNames=False )	reads mdf file version 3.x and 4.x
write( fileName=None )	writes simple mdf file
getChannelData( channelName )	returns channel numpy array
convertAllChannel()	converts all channel data according to CCBlock information
getChannelUnit( channelName )	returns channel unit
plot( channels )	Plot channels with Matplotlib
resample( samplingTime = 0.1, masterChannel=None )	Resamples all data groups
exportToCSV( filename = None, sampling = 0.1 )	Exports mdf data into CSV file
exportToNetCDF( filename = None, sampling = None )	Exports mdf data into netcdf file
exportToHDF5( filename = None, sampling = None )	Exports mdf class data structure into hdf5 file
exportToMatlab( filename = None )	Exports mdf class data structure into Matlab file
exportToExcel( filename = None )	Exports mdf data into excel 95 to 2003 file
exportToXlsx( filename=None )	Exports mdf data into excel 2007 and 2010 file
convertToPandas( sampling=None )	converts mdf data structure into pandas dataframe(s)
keepChannels( channelList )	keeps only list of channels and removes the other channels
mergeMdf( mdfClass ):	Merges data of 2 mdf classes

**allPlot** ( )

**convertAllChannel** ( )

Converts all channels from raw data to converted data according to CCBlock information Converted data will take more memory.

**convertToPandas** ( *sampling=None* )

converts mdf data structure into pandas dataframe(s)

**Parameters** **sampling** : float, optional

resampling interval

### Notes

One pandas dataframe is converted per data group Not adapted yet for mdf4 as it considers only time master channels

**exportToCSV** (*filename=None, sampling=None*)

Exports mdf data into CSV file

**Parameters filename** : str, optional

file name. If no name defined, it will use original mdf name and path

**sampling** : float, optional

sampling interval. None by default

### Notes

Data saved in CSV file be automatically resampled as it is difficult to save in this format data not sharing same master channel Warning: this can be slow for big data, CSV is text format after all

**exportToExcel** (*filename=None*)

Exports mdf data into excel 95 to 2003 file

**Parameters filename** : str, optional

file name. If no name defined, it will use original mdf name and path

### Notes

xlwt is not fast even for small files, consider other binary formats like HDF5 or Matlab If there are more than 256 channels, data will be saved over different worksheets Also Excel 2003 is becoming rare these days, prefer using exportToXlsx

**exportToHDF5** (*filename=None, sampling=None*)

Exports mdf class data structure into hdf5 file

**Parameters filename** : str, optional

file name. If no name defined, it will use original mdf name and path

**sampling** : float, optional

sampling interval.

### Notes

The maximum attributes will be stored Data structure will be similar has it is in masterChannelList attribute

**exportToMatlab** (*filename=None*)

Export mdf data into Matlab file format 5, tentatively compressed

**Parameters filename** : str, optional

file name. If no name defined, it will use original mdf name and path



## Notes

This method will dump all data into Matlab file but you will lose below information: - unit and descriptions of channel - data structure, what is corresponding master channel to a channel. Channels might have then different lengths

**exportToNetCDF** (*filename=None, sampling=None*)

Exports mdf data into netcdf file

**Parameters filename** : str, optional

file name. If no name defined, it will use original mdf name and path

**sampling** : float, optional

sampling interval.

**exportToXlsx** (*filename=None*)

Exports mdf data into excel 2007 and 2010 file

**Parameters filename** : str, optional

file name. If no name defined, it will use original mdf name and path

## Notes

It is recommended to export resampled data for performances

**getChannelData** (*channelName*)

Return channel numpy array

**Parameters channelName** : str

channel name

## Notes

This method is the safest to get channel data as numpy array from 'data' dict key might contain raw data

**keepChannels** (*channelList*)

keeps only list of channels and removes the other channels

**Parameters channelList** : list of str

list of channel names

**mergeMdf** (*mdfClass*)

Merges data of 2 mdf classes

**Parameters mdfClass** : mdf

mdf class instance to be merge with self

## Notes

both classes must have been resampled, otherwise, impossible to know master channel to match create union of both channel lists and fill with Nan for unknown sections in channels

**plot** (*channels*)

Plot channels with Matplotlib

**Parameters** **channels** : str or list of str  
channel name or list of channel names

## Notes

Channel description and unit will be tentatively displayed with axis labels

**read** (*fileName=None, multiProc=False, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True, filterChannelNames=False*)  
reads mdf file version 3.x and 4.x

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

file name

**multiProc** : bool

flag to activate multiprocessing of channel data conversion

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel names to be read If you use channelList, reading might be much slower but it will save you memory. Can be used to read big files

**convertAfterRead** : bool, optional

flag to convert channel after read, True by default If you use convertAfterRead by setting it to false, all data from channels will be kept raw, no conversion applied. If many float are stored in file, you can gain from 3 to 4 times memory footprint To calculate value from channel, you can then use method .getChannelData()

**filterChannelNames** : bool, optional

flag to filter long channel names from its module names separated by ‘.’

## Notes

If you keep convertAfterRead to true, you can set attribute mdf.multiProc to activate channel conversion in multiprocessing. Gain in reading time can be around 30% if file is big and using a lot of float channels

**resample** (*samplingTime=None, masterChannel=None*)

Resamples all data groups into one data group having defined sampling interval or sharing same master channel

**Parameters** **samplingTime** : float, optional

resampling interval, None by default. If None, will merge all datagroups into a unique datagroup having the highest sampling rate from all datagroups

**\*\*or\*\***

**masterChannel** : str, optional

master channel name to be used for all channels

## Notes

1. resampling is relatively safe for mdf3 as it contains only time series. However, mdf4 can contain also distance, angle, etc. It might make not sense to apply one resampling to several data groups that do not

share same kind of master channel (like time resampling to distance or angle data groups) If several kind of data groups are used, you should better use pandas to resample

2. resampling will convert all your channels so be careful for big files and memory consumption

**write** (*fileName=None*)

Writes simple mdf file, same format as originally read, default is 4.x

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

Name of file If file name is not input, written file name will be the one read with appended ‘\_new’ string before extension

## Notes

All channels will be converted, so size might be bigger than original file

**class** mdfreader.**mdfinfo** (*fileName=None, filterChannelNames=False, fid=None*)

Bases: dict

**MDFINFO is a class gathering information from block headers in a MDF (Measure Data Format) file**

Structure is nested dicts. Primary key is Block type, then data group, channel group and channel number. Examples of dicts

- mdfinfo[‘HDBlock’] header block
- mdfinfo[‘DGBlock’][dataGroup] Data Group block
- mdfinfo[‘CGBlock’][dataGroup][channelGroup] Channel Group block
- mdfinfo[‘CNBlock’][dataGroup][channelGroup][channel] Channel block including text blocks for comment and identifier
- mdfinfo[‘CCBlock’][dataGroup][channelGroup][channel] Channel conversion information

## Examples

```
>>> import mdfreader
>>> FILENAME='toto.dat'
>>> yop=mdfreader.mdfinfo(FILENAME)
or if you are just interested to have only list of channels
>>> yop=mdfreader.mdfinfo() # creates new instance of mdfinfo class
>>> yop.listChannels(FILENAME) # returns a simple list of channel names
```

## Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
mdfversion	(int) mdf file version number
filterChannelNames	(bool) flag to filter long channel names including module names separated by a ‘.’
fid	file identifier
zipfile	(Bool) flag to identify compressed file in pkzip, .mfxz extension

## Methods

<code>readinfo( fileName = None, filterChannelNames=False )</code>	Reads MDF file and extracts its complete structure
<code>listChannels( fileName = None )</code>	Read MDF file blocks and returns a list of contained channels

**listChannels** (*fileName=None*)

Read MDF file blocks and returns a list of contained channels

**Parameters** **fileName** : string

file name

**Returns** **nameList** : list of string

list of channel names

**readinfo** (*fileName=None, fid=None*)

Reads MDF file and extracts its complete structure

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

file name. If not input, uses fileName attribute

**fid** : file identifier, optional

## MDF3READER MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format file reader module for version 3.x

### 3.1 Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

**Author** Aymeric Rateau

Created on Sun Oct 10 12:57:28 2010

### 3.2 Dependencies

- Python >2.6, >3.2 <<http://www.python.org>>
- Numpy >1.6 <<http://numpy.scipy.org>>
- Sympy to convert channels with formula

### 3.3 Attributes

**PythonVersion** [float] Python version currently running, needed for compatibility of both python 2.6+ and 3.2+

### 3.4 mdf3reader module

**class** `mdf3reader.DATA` (*fid, pointer*)  
Bases: `dict`

DATA class is organizing record classes itself made of recordchannel. This class inherits from dict. Keys are corresponding to channel group recordID A DATA class corresponds to a data block, a dict of record classes (one per channel group) Each record class contains a list of recordchannel class representing the structure of channel record.

#### Attributes

<code>fid</code>	(io.open) file identifier
<code>pointerToData</code>	(int) position of Data block in mdf file

## Methods

<code>addRecord(record)</code>	Adds a new record in DATA class dict
<code>read(channelList, zip=None)</code>	Reads data block
<code>loadSorted(record, zip=None, nameList=None)</code>	Reads sorted data block from record definition
<code>load(nameList=None)</code>	Reads unsorted data block, not yet implemented

**addRecord** (*record*)

Adds a new record in DATA class dict

**Parameters** **record** class

channel group definition listing record channel classes

**load** (*nameList=None*)

not yet implemented

**loadSorted** (*record, zip=None, nameList=None*)

Reads sorted data block from record definition

**Parameters** **record** class

channel group definition listing record channel classes

**zip** : bool, optional

flag to track if data block is compressed

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel names

**Returns** numpy recarray of data

**read** (*channelList, zip=None*)

Reads data block

**Parameters** **channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel names

**zip** : bool, optional

flag to track if data block is compressed

`mdf3reader.expConv` (*data, conv*)

apply exponential conversion to data

**Parameters** **data** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**conv** : `mdfinfo3.info3` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf3reader.formulaConv` (*data, conv*)

apply formula conversion to data

**Parameters** **data** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**conv** : `mdfinfo3.info3` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

## Notes

Requires sympy module

`mdf3reader.linearConv(data, conv)`

apply linear conversion to data

**Parameters** `data` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`conv` : mdfinfo3.info3 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf3reader.logConv(data, conv)`

apply logarithmic conversion to data

**Parameters** `data` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`conv` : mdfinfo3.info3 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

**class** `mdf3reader.mdf3` (`fileName=None`, `channelList=None`, `convertAfterRead=True`, `filterChannelNames=False`)

Bases: `mdf.mdf_skeleton`

mdf file version 3.0 to 3.3 class

## Attributes

<code>fileName</code>	(str) file name
<code>MDFVersionNumber</code>	(int) mdf file version number
<code>masterChannelList</code>	(dict) Represents data structure: a key per master channel with corresponding value containing a list of channels One key or master channel represents then a data group having same sampling interval.
<code>multiProc</code>	(bool) Flag to request channel conversion multi processed for performance improvement. One thread per data group.
<code>convertAfterRead</code>	(bool) flag to convert raw data to physical just after read
<code>filterChannelNames</code>	(bool) flag to filter long channel names from its module names separated by '.'
<code>file_metadata</code>	(dict) file metadata with minimum keys : author, organisation, project, subject, comment, time, date

## Methods

<code>read3( fileName=None, info=None, multiProc=False, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True)</code>	Reads mdf 3.x file data and stores it in dict
<code>_getChannelData3(channelName)</code>	Returns channel numpy array
<code>_convertChannel3(channelName)</code>	converts specific channel from raw to physical data according to CCBlock information
<code>_convertAllChannel3()</code>	Converts all channels from raw data to converted data according to CCBlock information
<code>write3(fileName=None)</code>	Writes simple mdf 3.3 file

**read3** (*fileName=None, info=None, multiProc=False, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True, filterChannelNames=False*)

Reads mdf 3.x file data and stores it in dict

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

file name

**info** : `mdfinfo3.info3` class

info3 class containing all MDF Blocks

**multiProc** : bool

flag to activate multiprocessing of channel data conversion

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel names to be read If you use channelList, reading might be much slower but it will save you memory. Can be used to read big files

**convertAfterRead** : bool, optional

flag to convert channel after read, True by default If you use convertAfterRead by setting it to false, all data from channels will be kept raw, no conversion applied. If many float are stored in file, you can gain from 3 to 4 times memory footprint To calculate value from channel, you can then use method `.getChannelData()`

**write3** (*fileName=None*)

Writes simple mdf 3.3 file

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

Name of file If file name is not input, written file name will be the one read with appended `'_new'` string before extension

## Notes

All channels will be converted to physical data, so size might be bigger than original file

`mdf3reader.polyConv` (*data, conv*)

apply polynomial conversion to data

**Parameters** **data** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**conv** : `mdfinfo3.info3` conversion block (`'CCBlock'`) dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value



`mdf3reader.rationalConv(data, conv)`

apply rational conversion to data

**Parameters** `data` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`conv` : `mdfinfo3.info3` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

**class** `mdf3reader.record(dataGroup, channelGroup)`

Bases: `list`

record class lists recordchannel classes, it is representing a channel group

### Attributes

<code>recordLength</code>	(int) length of record corresponding of channel group in Byte
<code>numberOfRecords</code>	(int) number of records in data block
<code>recordID</code>	(int) recordID corresponding to channel group
<code>recordIDsize</code>	(int) size of recordID
<code>dataGroup</code>	(int:) data group number
<code>channelGroup</code>	(int) channel group number
<code>numpyDataRecordFormat</code>	(list) list of numpy (dtype) for each channel
<code>dataRecordName</code>	(list) list of channel names used for recarray attribute definition
<code>master</code>	(dict) define name and number of master channel
<code>recordToChannelMatching</code>	(dict) helps to identify nested bits in byte
<code>channelNames</code>	(list) channel names to be stored, useful for low memory consumption but slow

### Methods

<code>addChannel(info, channelNumber)</code>	
<code>loadInfo(info)</code>	
<code>readSortedRecord(fid, pointer, channelList=None)</code>	
<code>readUnsortedRecord(buf, channelList=None)</code>	

**addChannel** (*info*, *channelNumber*)

add a channel in class

**Parameters** `info` : `mdfinfo3.info3` class

`channelNumber` : int

channel number in `mdfinfo3.info3` class

**loadInfo** (*info*)

gathers records related from info class

**Parameters** `info` : `mdfinfo3.info3` class

**readSortedRecord** (*fid*, *pointer*, *channelList=None*)

reads record, only one channel group per datagroup

**Parameters** `fid` : float

file identifier

**pointer**

position in file of data block beginning

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel to read

**Returns** **rec** : numpy recarray

contains a matrix of raw data in a recarray (attributes corresponding to channel name)

**Notes**

If channelList is None, read data using `numpy.core.records.fromfile` that is rather quick. However, in case of large file, you can use channelList to load only interesting channels or only one channel on demand, but be aware it might be much slower.

**readUnsortedRecord** (*buf*, *channelList=None*)

Not implemented yet, no reference files available to test it

**class** `mdf3reader.recordChannel` (*info*, *dataGroup*, *channelGroup*, *channelNumber*, *recordIDsize*)

recordChannel class gathers all about channel structure in a record

**Attributes**

name	(str) Name of channel
unit	(str, default empty string) channel unit
desc	(str) channel description
conversion	(info class) conversion dictionary
channelNumber	(int) channel number corresponding to <code>mdfinfo3.info3</code> class
signal-DataType	(int) signal type according to specification
bitCount	(int) number of bits used to store channel record
nBytes	(int) number of bytes (1 byte = 8 bits) taken by channel record
dataFormat	(str) numpy dtype as string
CFormat	(struct class instance) struct instance to convert from C Format
byteOffset	(int) position of channel record in complete record in bytes
bitOffset	(int) bit position of channel value inside byte in case of channel having bit count below 8
RecordFormat	(list of str) dtype format used for <code>numpy.core.records</code> functions ( <i>(name,name_title),str_type</i> )
channelType	(int) channel type
posBeg	(int) start position in number of bit of channel record in complete record
posEnd	(int) end position in number of bit of channel record in complete record

**Methods**

<code>__init__</code> ( <i>info</i> , <i>dataGroup</i> , <i>channelGroup</i> , <i>channelNumber</i> , <i>recordIDsize</i> )	constructor
<code>__str__</code> ()	to print class attributes

`mdf3reader.tabConv` (*data*, *conv*)

apply Tabular conversion to data

**Parameters** **data** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**conv** : mdfinfo3.info3 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf3reader.tabInterpConv(data, conv)`

apply Tabular interpolation conversion to data

**Parameters** **data** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**conv** : mdfinfo3.info3 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf3reader.textRangeTableConv(data, conv)`

apply text range table conversion to data

**Parameters** **data** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**conv** : mdfinfo3.info3 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value



## MDFINFO3 MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format blocks parser for version 3.x

Created on Thu Dec 9 12:57:28 2014

### 4.1 Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

**Author** Aymeric Rateau

### 4.2 Dependencies

- Python >2.6, >3.2 <<http://www.python.org>>
- Numpy >1.6 <<http://numpy.scipy.org>>

### 4.3 Attributes

**PythonVersion** [float] Python version currently running, needed for compatibility of both python 2.6+ and 3.2+

### 4.4 mdinfo3 module

**class** `mdinfo3.info3` (*fileName=None, fid=None, filterChannelNames=False*)

Bases: dict

mdf file info class version 3.x MDFINFO is a class information about an MDF (Measure Data Format) file  
Based on following specification <http://powertrainnvh.com/nvh/MDFspecificationv03.pdf>

#### Notes

`mdinfo(FILENAME)` contains a dict of structures, for each data group, containing key information about all channels in each group. FILENAME is a string that specifies the name of the MDF file. General dictionary structure is the following

- `mdinfo['HDBlock']` header block

- `mdfinfo['DGBlock']`[dataGroup] Data Group block
- `mdfinfo['CGBlock']`[dataGroup][channelGroup] Channel Group block
- `mdfinfo['CNBlock']`[dataGroup][channelGroup][channel] Channel block including text blocks for comment and identifier
- `mdfinfo['CCBlock']`[dataGroup][channelGroup][channel] Channel conversion information

### Attributes

<code>filterChannel-Names</code>	(bool, optional) flag to filter long channel names including module names separated by a '.'
<code>fileName</code>	(str) name of file

### Methods

**static `blockformats3`** (*block, version=0*)

This function returns all the predefined formats for the different blocks in the MDF file

**Parameters** `block` : str

kind of block

**version** : int

mdf version

**Returns** nested list of str and int describing structure of block to be used by `mdfblockread3` method

**listChannels3** (*fileName=None, fid=None*)

reads data, channel group and channel blocks to list channel names

**Returns** list of channel names

### Attributes

<code>fileName</code>	(str) file name
-----------------------	-----------------

**static `mdfblockread3`** (*blockFormat, fid, pointer, removeTrailing0=True*)

Extract block of data from MDF file in original data types. Returns a dictionary with keys specified in data structure `blockFormat`

**Parameters** `blockFormat` : nested list

output of `blockformats3` method

**fid** : float

file identifier

**pointer** : int

position of block in file

**removeTrailing0** : bool, optional

removes or not the trailing 0 from strings

**Returns** Block content in a dict

**readinfo3** (*fid*)

read all file blocks except data

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier





## MDF4READER MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format file reader module for version 4.x.

### 5.1 Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

**Author** Aymeric Rateau

Created on Thu Dec 10 12:57:28 2013

### 5.2 Dependencies

- Python >2.6, >3.2 <<http://www.python.org>>
- Numpy >1.6 <<http://numpy.scipy.org>>
- bitarray to parse bits in not aligned bytes
- Sympy to convert channels with formula if needed
- zlib to uncompress data block if needed

### 5.3 Attributes

**PythonVersion** [float] Python version currently running, needed for compatibility of both python 2.6+ and 3.2+

### 5.4 mdf4reader module

**class** `mdf4reader.DATA` (*fid, pointer*)  
Bases: `dict`

DATA class is organizing record classes itself made of channel class. This class inherits from dict. Keys are corresponding to channel group recordID A DATA class corresponds to a data block, a dict of record classes (one per channel group) Each record class contains a list of channel class representing the structure of channel record.

## Attributes

fid	(io.open) file identifier
pointerToData	(int) position of Data block in mdf file
type	(str) 'sorted' or 'unsorted' data block

## Methods

addRecord(record)	Adds a new record in DATA class dict
read(channelList, zip=None)	Reads data block
load(record, zip=None, nameList=None)	Reads sorted data block from record definition
readRecord(recordID, buf, channelList=None):	read record from a buffer

**addRecord** (*record*)

Adds a new record in DATA class dict.

**Parameters** **record** class

channel group definition listing record channel classes

**load** (*record*, *zip=None*, *nameList=None*, *sortedFlag=True*)

Reads data block from record definition

**Parameters** **record** class

channel group definition listing record channel classes

**zip** : bool, optional

flag to track if data block is compressed

**nameList** : list of str, optional

list of channel names

**Returns** numpy recarray of data

**read** (*channelList*, *zip=None*)

Reads data block

**Parameters** **channelList** : list of str

list of channel names

**zip** : bool, optional

flag to track if data block is compressed

**readRecord** (*recordID*, *buf*, *channelList=None*)

read record from a buffer

**Parameters** **recordID** : int

record identifier

**buf** : str

buffer of data from file to be converted to channel raw data

**channelList** : list of str

list of channel names to be read

`mdf4reader.DATABlock (record, parent_block, channelList=None, sortedFlag=True)`

DATABlock converts raw data into arrays

**Parameters** `record` : class

record class instance describing a channel group record

**parent\_block** : class

MDFBlock class containing at least parent block header

**channelList** : list of str, optional

defines list of channels to only read, can be slow but saves memory, for big files

**sortedFlag** : bool, optional

flag to know if data block is sorted (only one Channel Group in block) or unsorted (several Channel Groups identified by a recordID). As unsorted block can contain CG records in random order, block is processed iteratively, not in raw like sorted -> much slower reading

**Returns** a recarray containing the channels data

## Notes

This function will read DTBlock, RDBlock, DZBlock (compressed), RDBlock (VLSD), sorted or unsorted

`mdf4reader.append_field (rec, name, arr, numpy_dtype=None)`

append new field in a recarray

**Parameters** `rec` : numpy recarray

**name** : str

name of field to be appended

**arr** : numpy array to be appended

**numpy\_dtype** : numpy dtype, optional

apply same dtype as arr by default but can be modified

**Returns** numpy recarray appended

`mdf4reader.arrayformat4 (signalDataType, numberOfBits)`

function returning numpy style string from channel data type and number of bits

**Parameters** `signalDataType` : int

channel data type according to specification

**numberOfBits** : int

number of bits taken by channel data in a record

**Returns** `dataType` : str

numpy dtype format used by `numpy.core.records` to read channel raw data

`mdf4reader.bits_to_bytes (nBits)`

Converts number of bits into number of aligned bytes

**Parameters** `nBits` : int

number of bits

**Returns** number of equivalent bytes

`mdf4reader.change_field_name(arr, old_name, new_name)`  
modifies name of field in a recarray

**Parameters** `arr` : numpy recarray

**old\_name** : str

old field

**new\_name** : str

new field

**Returns** numpy recarray with modified field name

**class** `mdf4reader.channel`  
channel class gathers all about channel structure in a record

### Attributes

name	(str) Name of channel
unit	(str, default empty string) channel unit
desc	(str) channel description
type	(str) channel type. Can be 'standard', 'NestedCA', 'CANOpen' or 'InvalidBytes'
conversion	(info class) conversion dictionary
CNBlock	(info class) Channel Block info class
channelNum- ber	(int) channel number corresponding to <code>mdfinfo3.info3</code> class
channelGroup	(int) channel group number corresponding to <code>mdfinfo3.info3</code> class
dataGroup	(int) data group number corresponding to <code>mdfinfo3.info3</code> class
signal- DataType	(int) signal type according to specification
bitCount	(int) number of bits used to store channel record
nBytes	(int) number of bytes (1 byte = 8 bits) taken by channel record
dataFormat	(str) numpy dtype as string
Format :	C format understood by <code>fread</code>
CFormat	(struct class instance) struct instance to convert from C Format
byteOffset	(int) position of channel record in complete record in bytes
bitOffset	(int) bit position of channel value inside byte in case of channel having bit count below 8
RecordFormat	(list of str) dtype format used for <code>numpy.core.records</code> functions ((name,name_title),str_stype)
channelType	(int) channel type ; 0 fixed length data, 1 VLSD, 2 master, 3 virtual master, 4 sync, 5 MLSD, 6 virtual data
channelSync- Type	(int) channel synchronisation type ; 0 None, 1 Time, 2 Angle, 3 Distance, 4 Index
posByteBeg	(int) start position in number of byte of channel record in complete record
posByteEnd	(int) end position in number of byte of channel record in complete record
posBitBeg	(int) start position in number of bit of channel record in complete record
posBitEnd	(int) end position in number of bit of channel record in complete record
VLSD_CG_Flag	(bool) flag when Channel Group VLSD is used
data	(int) pointer to data block linked to a channel (VLSD, MLSD)

## Methods

<code>__init__()</code>	constructor
<code>__str__()</code>	to print class attributes
<code>attachment(fid, info)</code>	in case of sync channel attached
<code>set(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber, recordIDsize)</code>	standard channel initialisation
<code>setCANOpen(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber, recordIDsize, name)</code>	CANOpen channel initialisation
<code>setInvalidBytes(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, recordIDsize, byte_aligned)</code>	Invalid Bytes channel initialisation

**attachment** (*fid, info*)

**set** (*info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber, recordIDsize*)  
standard record channel initialisation

**Parameters** **info** : mdfinfo4.info4 class

**dataGroup** : int

data group number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**channelGroup** : int

channel group number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**channelNumber** : int

channel number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**recordIDsize** : int

size of record ID in Bytes

**setCANOpen** (*info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber, recordIDsize, name*)  
CANOpen channel intialisation

**Parameters** **info** : mdfinfo4.info4 class

**dataGroup** : int

data group number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**channelGroup** : int

channel group number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**channelNumber** : int

channel number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**recordIDsize** : int

size of record ID in Bytes

**name** : str

name of channel. Should be in ('ms', 'day', 'days', 'hour', 'month', 'min', 'year')

**setInvalidBytes** (*info, dataGroup, channelGroup, recordIDsize, byte\_aligned=True*)  
invalid\_bytes channel initialisation

**Parameters** **info** : mdfinfo4.info4 class

**dataGroup** : int

data group number in mdinfo4.info4 class

**channelGroup** : int

channel group number in mdinfo4.info4 class

**channelNumber** : int

channel number in mdinfo4.info4 class

**recordIDsize** : int

size of record ID in Bytes

**byte\_aligned** : Bool

Flag for byte alignment

**validity\_channel** (*channelName*)

extract channel validity bits

**Parameters** **channelName** : str

channel name

`mdf4reader.convertChannelData4` (*channel*, *channelName*, *convert\_tables*, *multiProc=False*,  
*Q=None*)

converts specific channel from raw to physical data according to CCBLOCK information

**Parameters** **channelName** : dict

channel dict containing keys like 'data', 'unit', 'comment' and potentially 'conversion'  
dict

**channelName** : str

name of channel

**convert\_tables** : bool

activates computation intensive loops for conversion with tables. Default is False

**multiProc** : bool, default False

flag to put data in multiprocessing queue

**Q** : Queue class, default None

Queue used for multiprocessing

**Returns** dict

returns dict with channelName key containing numpy array converted to physical values  
according to conversion type

`mdf4reader.convertName` (*channelName*)

Adds '\_title' to channel name for numpy.core.records methods.

`mdf4reader.datatypeformat4` (*signalDataType*, *numberOfBits*)

function returning C format string from channel data type and number of bits

**Parameters** **signalDataType** : int

channel data type according to specification

**numberOfBits** : int

number of bits taken by channel data in a record

**Returns** **dataType** : str

C format used by fread to read channel raw data

`mdf4reader.decompress_datablock(block, zip_type, zip_parameter, org_data_length)`  
decompress datablock.

**Parameters** `block` : bytes

raw data compressed

**zip\_type** : int

0 for non transposed, 1 for transposed data

**zip\_parameter** : int

first dimension of matrix to be transposed

**org\_data\_length** : int

uncompressed data length

**Returns** uncompressed raw data

`mdf4reader.equalizeStringLength(buf)`

Makes all strings in a list having same length by appending spaces strings.

**Parameters** `buf` : list of str

**Returns** list of str elements all having same length

`mdf4reader.formulaConv(vect, formula)`

apply formula conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**cc\_val** : `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.linearConv(vect, cc_val)`

apply linear conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**cc\_val** : `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

**class** `mdf4reader.mdf4` (*fileName=None, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True, filterChannelNames=False*)

Bases: `mdf.mdf_skeleton`

mdf file reader class from version 4.0 to 4.1.1

## Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
MDFVersionNumber	(int) mdf file version number
masterChannelList	(dict) Represents data structure: a key per master channel with corresponding value containing a list of channels One key or master channel represents then a data group having same sampling interval.
multiProc	(bool) Flag to request channel conversion multi processed for performance improvement. One thread per data group.
convertAfterRead	(bool) flag to convert raw data to physical just after read
filterChannelNames	(bool) flag to filter long channel names from its module names separated by ‘.’
file_metadata	(dict) file metadata with minimum keys : author, organisation, project, subject, comment, time, date

## Methods

read4( fileName=None, info=None, multiProc=False, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True)	Reads mdf 4.x file data and stores it in dict
_getChannelData4(channelName)	Returns channel numpy array
_convertChannel4(channelName)	converts specific channel from raw to physical data according to CCBlock information
_convertAllChannel4()	Converts all channels from raw data to converted data according to CCBlock information

**read4** (*fileName=None, info=None, multiProc=False, channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True, filterChannelNames=False*)

Reads mdf 4.x file data and stores it in dict

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

file name

**info** : mdfinfo4.info4 class

info3 class containing all MDF Blocks

**multiProc** : bool

flag to activate multiprocessing of channel data conversion

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel names to be read If you use channelList, reading might be much slower but it will save you memory. Can be used to read big files

**convertAfterRead** : bool, optional

flag to convert channel after read, True by default If you use convertAfterRead by setting it to false, all data from channels will be kept raw, no conversion applied. If many float are stored in file, you can gain from 3 to 4 times memory footprint To calculate value from channel, you can then use method .getChannelData()



**write4** (*fileName=None*)

Writes simple mdf 4.1 file

**Parameters** **fileName** : str, optional

Name of file If file name is not input, written file name will be the one read with appended ‘\_new’ string before extension

## Notes

All channels will be converted to physical data, so size might be bigger than original file

`mdf4reader.rationalConv` (*vect, cc\_val*)

apply rational conversion to data

**Parameters** **vect** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**cc\_val** : mdfinfo4.info4 conversion block (‘CCBlock’) dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

**class** `mdf4reader.record` (*dataGroup, channelGroup*)

Bases: list

record class listing channel classes. It is representing a channel group

## Attributes

<code>CGrecordLength</code>	(int) length of record corresponding of channel group in Byte CG Block information
<code>recordLength</code>	(int) length of record as understood by program based on C datatypes
<code>numberOfRecords</code>	(int) number of records in data block
<code>recordID</code>	(int) recordID corresponding to channel group
<code>recordIDsize</code>	(int) size of recordID
<code>recordIDCFormat</code>	(str) record identifier C format string as understood by fread
<code>dataGroup</code>	(int:) data group number
<code>channelGroup</code>	(int) channel group number
<code>numpyDataRecord-Format</code>	(list) list of numpy (dtype) for each channel
<code>dataRecordName</code>	(list) list of channel names used for recarray attribute definition
<code>master</code>	(dict) define name and number of master channel
<code>recordToChannel-Matching</code>	(dict) helps to identify nested bits in byte
<code>channelNames</code>	(list) channel names to be stored, useful for low memory consumption but slow
<code>Flags</code>	(bool) channel flags as from specification
<code>VLSD_CG</code>	(dict) dict of Channel Group VLSD, key being recordID
<code>VLSD</code>	(list of channel classes) list of channel classes being VLSD
<code>MLSD</code>	(dict) copy from info[‘MLSD’] if existing
<code>byte_aligned</code>	(Bool, True by default) flag for byte aligned record
<code>hiddenBytes</code>	(Bool, False by default) flag in case of non declared channels in record, forces to use readBitarray
<code>invalid_channel</code>	(Default None) invalid_byte class if existing in record otherwise None
<code>CANOpen</code>	(str, Default None) ‘time’ if record contains CANOpen time channel, same for ‘date’

## Methods

addChannel(info, channelNumber)	
loadInfo(info)	
readSortedRecord(fid, pointer, channelList=None)	
readRecordBuf(buf, channelList=None)	
readBitarray(bita, channelList=None)	

**addChannel** (*info*, *channelNumber*)

add a channel in class

**Parameters** **info** : mdfinfo4.info4 class

**channelNumber** : int

channel number in mdfinfo4.info4 class

**loadInfo** (*info*)

gathers records related from info class

**Parameters** **info** : mdfinfo4.info4 class

**readBitarray** (*bita*, *channelList=None*)

reads stream of record bytes using bitarray module needed for not byte aligned data

**Parameters** **bita** : stream

stream of bytes

**channelList** : List of str, optional

list of channel to read

**Returns** **rec** : numpy recarray

contains a matrix of raw data in a recarray (attributes corresponding to channel name)

**readRecordBuf** (*buf*, *channelList=None*)

read stream of record bytes

**Parameters** **buf** : stream

stream of bytes read in file

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel to read

**Returns** **rec** : dict

returns dictionary of channel with its corresponding values

**readSortedRecord** (*fid*, *pointer*, *channelList=None*)

reads record, only one channel group per datagroup

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**pointer**

position in file of data block beginning

**channelList** : list of str, optional

list of channel to read

**Returns** `rec` : numpy recarray

contains a matrix of raw data in a recarray (attributes corresponding to channel name)

## Notes

If `channelList` is `None`, read data using `numpy.core.records.fromfile` that is rather quick. However, in case of large file, you can use `channelList` to load only interesting channels or only one channel on demand, but be aware it might be much slower.

`mdf4reader.textToTextConv(vect, cc_ref)`  
apply text to text conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`cc_ref` : `cc_ref` from `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.textToValueConv(vect, cc_val, cc_ref)`  
apply text to value conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`cc_val` : `cc_val` from `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

`cc_ref` : `cc_ref` from `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.valueRangeToTextConv(vect, cc_val, cc_ref)`  
apply value range to text conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`cc_val` : `cc_val` from `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

`cc_ref` : `cc_ref` from `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.valueRangeToValueTableConv(vect, cc_val)`  
apply value range to value table conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

`cc_val` : `mdfinfo4.info4` conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.valueToTextConv(vect, cc_val, cc_ref)`  
apply value to text conversion to data

**Parameters** `vect` : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**cc\_val** : cc\_val from mdinfo4.info4 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**cc\_ref** : cc\_ref from mdinfo4.info4 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.valueToValueTableWInterpConv(vect, cc_val)`

apply value to value table with interpolation conversion to data

**Parameters** **vect** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**cc\_val** : mdinfo4.info4 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

`mdf4reader.valueToValueTableWOInterpConv(vect, cc_val)`

apply value to value table without interpolation conversion to data

**Parameters** **vect** : numpy 1D array

raw data to be converted to physical value

**cc\_val** : mdinfo4.info4 conversion block ('CCBlock') dict

**Returns** converted data to physical value

## MDFINFO4 MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format blocks parser for version 4.x

### 6.1 Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

Created on Sun Dec 15 12:57:28 2013

**Author** Aymeric Rateau

### 6.2 Dependencies

- Python >2.6, >3.2 <<http://www.python.org>>
- Numpy >1.6 <<http://numpy.scipy.org>>

### 6.3 Attributes

**PythonVersion** [float] Python version currently running, needed for compatibility of both python 2.6+ and 3.2+

### 6.4 mdinfo4 module

**class** `mdinfo4.ATBlock` (*fid, pointer*)

Bases: `mdinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Attachment block and saves in class dict

#### Methods

**class** `mdinfo4.CABlock` (*fid, pointer*)

Bases: `mdinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Channel Array block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**class** `mdfinfo4.CCBlock` (*fid=None, pointer=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`  
reads Channel Conversion block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**read** (*fid, pointer*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.CGBlock` (*fid=None, pointer=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`  
reads Channel Group block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**read** (*fid, pointer*)

**write** (*fid, cg\_cycle\_count, cg\_data\_bytes*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.CHBlock` (*fid, pointer*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`  
reads Channel Hierarchy block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**class** `mdfinfo4.CNBlock` (*fid=None, pointer=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`  
reads Channel block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**read** (*fid, pointer*)

**write** (*fid*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.CommentBlock` (*fid=None, pointer=None, MDType=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`  
reads or writes Comment block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**extractXmlField** (*xml\_tree, field*)  
Extract Xml field from a xml tree

**Parameters** `xml_tree` : xml tree from `xml.etree.ElementTree`

**field** : str

**Returns** field value in xml tree

**read** (*fid*, *pointer*, *MDType=None*)  
reads Comment block and saves in class dict

### Notes

Can read xml (MD metadata) or text (TX) comments from several kind of blocks

**write** (*fid*, *data*, *MDType*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.DGBlock` (*fid=None*, *pointer=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Data Group block and saves in class dict

### Methods

**read** (*fid*, *pointer*)

**write** (*fid*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.EVBlock` (*fid*, *pointer*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Event block and saves in class dict

### Methods

**class** `mdfinfo4.FHBlock` (*fid=None*, *pointer=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads File History block and save in class dict

### Methods

**read** (*fid*, *pointer*)

**write** (*fid*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.HDBlock` (*fid=None*, *pointer=64*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Header block and save in class dict

### Methods

**read** (*fid=None*, *pointer=64*)

**write** (*fid*)

**class** `mdfinfo4.IDBlock` (*fid=None*)  
Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads or writes ID Block

## Methods

**read** (*fid*)  
reads IDBlock

**write** (*fid*)  
Writes IDBlock

**class** mdfinfo4.**MDFBlock**

Bases: dict

MDFBlock base class for the MDF related block classes

## Methods

<b>loadHeader</b> ( <i>fid</i> , <i>pointer</i> )	reads block's header and put in class dict
<b>mdfblockread</b> ( <i>fid</i> , <i>type</i> , <i>count</i> )	converts a byte array of length count to a given data type
<b>mdfblockreadCHAR</b> ( <i>fid</i> , <i>count</i> )	reads a character chain of length count encoded in latin.
<b>mdfblockreadBYTE</b> ( <i>fid</i> , <i>count</i> )	reads an array of UTF-8 encoded bytes

**loadHeader** (*fid*, *pointer*)  
reads block's header and put in class dict

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**pointer** : int

position of block in file

**static mdfblockread** (*fid*, *type*, *count*)  
converts a byte array of length count to a given data type

**Parameters** **type** : str

C format data type

**count** : int

number of elements to sequentially read

**Returns** array of values of 'type' parameter

**static mdfblockreadBYTE** (*fid*, *count*)  
reads an array of UTF-8 encoded bytes. Removes trailing 0

**Parameters** **count** : int

number of bytes to read

**Returns** bytes array of length count

**static mdfblockreadCHAR** (*fid*, *count*)  
reads a character chain of length count encoded in latin. Removes trailing 0

**Parameters** **count** : int

number of characters to read

**Returns** a string of length count

**static writeChar** (*fid*, *value*, *size=None*)  
Writes a char in a block



**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**value** : str

char value to write

**size** : int

size that should take this char

**writeHeader** (*fid, Id, block\_length, link\_count*)

Writes header of a block

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**Id** : str

4 character id of block, for instance ‘##HD’

**block\_length** : int

total block length

**link\_count** : int

number of links in the block

**Returns** (block\_length\_pointer, link\_count\_pointer)

**static writePointer** (*fid, pointer, value*)

Writes a value at pointer position and comes back to orgianl position

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**pointer** : float

pointer where to write value

**value** : int

value to write (LINK)

**class** `mdfinfo4.SIBlock` (*fid, pointer*)

Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Source Information block and saves in class dict

## Methods

**class** `mdfinfo4.SRBBlock` (*fid, pointer*)

Bases: `mdfinfo4.MDFBlock`

reads Sample Reduction block and saves in class dict

## Methods

`mdfinfo4.elementTreeToDict` (*element*)

converts xml tree into dictionnary

**Parameters** **element** : xml tree from xml.etree.ElementTree

**Returns** dict of xml tree flattened

**class** `mdfinfo4.info4` (*fileName=None, fid=None*)

Bases: dict

information block parser fo MDF file version 4.x

## Notes

`mdfinfo(FILENAME)` contains a dict of structures, for each data group, containing key information about all channels in each group. FILENAME is a string that specifies the name of the MDF file. Either file name or fid should be given. General dictionary structure is the following

- `mdfinfo['HDBlock']` header block
- `mdfinfo['DGBlock'][dataGroup]` Data Group block
- `mdfinfo['CGBlock'][dataGroup][channelGroup]` Channel Group block
- `mdfinfo['CNBlock'][dataGroup][channelGroup][channel]` Channel block including text blocks for comment and identifier
- `mdfinfo['CCBlock'][dataGroup][channelGroup][channel]` Channel conversion information

## Attributes

<code>fileName</code>	(str) name of file
-----------------------	--------------------

## Methods

**listChannels4** (*fileName=None, fid=None*)

Read MDF file and extract its complete structure

**Parameters** **fileName** : str

file name

**Returns** list of channel names contained in file

**readATBlock** (*self, fid, pointer*)

reads Attachment blocks

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**pointer** : int

position of ATBlock in file

**Returns** Attachments Blocks in a dict

**readCGBlock** (*fid, dg, channelNameList=False*)

reads Channel Group blocks

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**dg** : int

data group number

**channelNameList** : bool

Flag to reads only channel blocks for listChannels4 method

**readCNBlock** (*fid, dg, cg, channelNameList=False*)

reads Channel blocks

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**dg** : int

data group number

**cg** : int

channel group number in data group

**channelNameList** : bool

Flag to reads only channel blocks for listChannels4 method

**readComposition** (*fid, dg, cg, MLSDChannels, channelNameList=False*)

check for composition of channels, arrays or structures

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**dg** : int

data group number

**cg** : int

channel group number in data group

**MLSDChannels** : list of int

channel numbers

**channelNameList** : bool

Flag to reads only channel blocks for listChannels4 method

**Returns** MLSDChannels list of appended Maximum Length Sampling Data channels

**readDGBlock** (*fid, channelNameList=False*)

reads Data Group Blocks

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**channelNameList** : bool

Flag to reads only channel blocks for listChannels4 method

**readSRBlock** (*fid, pointer*)

reads Sample Reduction Blocks

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

**pointer** : int

position of SRBlock in file

**Returns** Sample Reduction Blocks in a dict

**readinfo** (*fid*)

read all file blocks except data

**Parameters** **fid** : float

file identifier

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