mdfreader Documentation

Release 1.4

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CHAPTER

ONE

MDF MODULE DOCUMENTATION

mdf_skeleton module describing basic mdf structure and methods Created on Thu Sept 24 2015

Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

Author Aymeric Rateau

Dependencies

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

mdf module

 $\textbf{class} \ \texttt{mdf.mdf_skeleton} \ (\textit{fileName} = None, \ \textit{channelList} = None, \ \textit{convertAfterRead} = True, \ \textit{filterChannel-Names} = False)$

Bases: dict

mdf_skeleton class

Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
MDFVer-	(int) mdf file version number
sionNum-	
ber	
master-	(dict) Represents data structure: a key per master channel with corresponding value
Channel-	containing a list of channels One key or master channel represents then a data group having
List	same sampling interval.
multiProc	(bool) Flag to request channel conversion multi processed for performance improvement.
	One thread per data group.
con-	(bool) flag to convert raw data to physical just after read
vertAfter-	
Read	
filterChan-	(bool) flag to filter long channel names from its module names separated by '.'
nelNames	
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,	adds channel to mdf dict
unit='', description='', conversion=None)	
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,	adds basic metadata from file
time)	

add_channel (dataGroup, channel_name, data, master_channel, master_type=1, unit='', description='', conversion=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
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
```

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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 dictionnary

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

 $\verb|setChannelMasterType|| (channelName, masterType)|$

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

 $\boldsymbol{unit}: str$

channel unit

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MDFREADER MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format file reader main module

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

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

Attributes

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

mdfreader module

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.exportoCSV(sampling=0.01)
>>> yop.exportNetCDF()
>>> yop.exporttoHDF5()
>>> yop.exporttoMatlab()
>>> yop.exporttoExcel()
>>> yop.exporttoXlsx()
>>> yop.convertToPandas() # converts data groups into pandas dataframes
>>> yop.keepChannels({'channel1','channel2','channel3'}) # drops all the channels except the one
>>> yop.getChannelData('channelName') # returns channel numpy array
```

Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
MDFVer-	(int) mdf file version number
sionNum-	
ber	
master-	(dict) Represents data structure: a key per master channel with corresponding value
Channel-	containing a list of channels One key or master channel represents then a data group having
List	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,	reads mdf file version 3.x and 4.x
convertAfterRead=True, filterChannelNames=False)	
write(fileName=None)	writes simple mdf 3.3 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

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Notes

Data saved in CSV fille 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 for 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 203 is becoming rare these days

```
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 loose 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, filterChannel-Names=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

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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 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, so size might be bigger than original file

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

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 f mdfinfo class
>>> yop=mdfreader.listChannels(FILENAME) # returns a simple list of channel names
```

Attributes

fileName	(str) file name
mdfversion	(int) mdf file version number

Methods

readinfo(fileName = None,	Reads MDF file and extracts its complete structure
filterChannelNames=False)	
listChannels(fileName = None)	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, filterChannelNames=False)

Reads MDF file and extracts its complete structure

Parameters fileName: str, optional

file name. If not input, uses fileName attribute

filterChannelNames: bool, optional

flag to filter long channel names including module names separated by a '.'

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CHAPTER

THREE

MDF3READER MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format file reader module for version 3.x

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

Dependencies

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

Attributes

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

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

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

Methods

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

 $\verb|mdf3reader.formulaConv| (\textit{data}, \textit{conv})|$

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, filterChannel-

Names=False)

Bases: mdf.mdf_skeleton

mdf file version 3.0 to 3.3 class

Attributes

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

Methods

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

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

Methods

addChannel(info, channelNumber)	
loadInfo(info)	
readSortedRecord(fid, pointer, channelList=None)	
readUnsortedRecord(buf, channelList=None)	

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 dictionnary
channelNum-	(int) channel number corresponding to mdfinfo3.info3 class
ber	
signal-	(int) signal type according to specification
DataType	
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 numpy.core.records functions
	((name,name_title),str_stype)
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

init(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber, recordIDsize)		constructor
str()		to print class attributes

mdf3reader.tabConv(data, conv)

Parameters data: numpy 1D array

apply Tabular conversion to data

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

CHAPTER

FOUR

MDFINFO3 MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format blocks parser for version 3.x Created on Thu Dec 9 12:57:28 2014

Platform and python version

With Unix and Windows for python 2.6+ and 3.2+

Author Aymeric Rateau

Dependencies

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

Attributes

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

mdfinfo3 module

class mdfinfo3.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

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. 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

filterChannel-	(bool, optional) flag to filter long channel names including module names separated	
Names	by a '.'	
fileName	(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)

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

Returns list of channel names

Attributes

$static \ mdfblockread3 \ (blockFormat, fid, pointer, removeTrailing0=True)$

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

 $\textbf{Parameters} \ \ \textbf{fid} : \textbf{float}$

file identifier

4.4. mdfinfo3 module 27

CHAPTER

FIVE

MDF4READER MODULE DOCUMENTATION

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

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

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

Attributes

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

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

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', 'CANOpen' or 'InvalidBytes'	
conversion	(info class) conversion dictionnary	
channelNum-	(int) channel number corresponding to mdfinfo3.info3 class	
ber		
channelGroup	(int) channel group number corresponding to mdfinfo3.info3 class	
dataGroup	(int) data group number corresponding to mdfinfo3.info3 class	
signal-	(int) signal type according to specification	
DataType		
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 fread	
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 numpy.core.records 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-	(int) channel synchronisation type; 0 None, 1 Time, 2 Angle, 3 Distance, 4 Index	
Type		
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

init()	constructor
str()	to print class attributes
attachment(fid, info)	in case of sync channel
	attached
set(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber, recordIDsize)	standard channel initialisation
setCANOpen(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, channelNumber,	CANOpen channel
recordIDsize, name)	initialisation
setInvalidBytes(info, dataGroup, channelGroup, recordIDsize,	Invalid Bytes channel
byte_aligned)	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')

 $\textbf{setInvalidBytes} \ (info, dataGroup, channelGroup, recordID size, byte_aligned=True)$

invalid_bytes 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

byte_aligned: Bool

Flag for byte alignement

validity_channel(channelName)

extract channel validity bits

Parameters channelName: str

channel name

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 multiprocess 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, filterChannel-
                          Names=False)
     Bases: mdf.mdf_skeleton
```

5.4. mdf4reader module

mdf file reader class from version 4.0 to 4.1.1

Attributes

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

Methods

read4(fileName=None, info=None, multiProc=False,	Reads mdf 4.x file data and stores it in dict
channelList=None, convertAfterRead=True)	
_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()

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

CGrecordLength	(int) length of record corresponding of channel group in Byte CG Block information
recordLength	(int) length of record as understood by program based on C datatypes
numberOfRecords	(int) number of records in data block
recordID	(int) recordID corresponding to channel group
recordIDsize	(int) size of recordID
recordIDCFormat	(str) record identifier C format string as understood by fread
dataGroup	(int:) data group number
channelGroup	(int) channel group number
numpyDataRecordFormat	(list) list of numpy (dtype) for each channel
dataRecordName	(list) list of channel names used for recarray attribute definition
master	(dict) define name and number of master channel
recordToChannelMatching	(dict) helps to identify nested bits in byte
channelNames	(list) channel names to be stored, useful for low memory
	consumption but slow
Flags	(bool) channel flags as from specification
VLSD_CG	(dict) dict of Channel Group VLSD, key being recordID
VLSD	(list of channel classes) list of channel classes being VLSD
MLSD	(dict) copy from info['MLSD'] if existing
byte_aligned	(Bool, True by default) flag for byte aligned record
hiddenBytes	(Bool, False by default) flag in case of non declared channels in
	record, forces to use readBitarray
invalid_channel	(Default None) invalid_byte class if existing in record otherwise None
CANOpen	(str, Default None) 'time' if record contains CANOpen time channel, same for 'date'
Methods	
LICLARIA (C. C. L. L. IN. L.	
addChannel(info, channelNumber)	
loadInfo(info)	
readSortedRecord(fid, pointer,	
channelList=None) readRecordBuf(buf,	
channelList=None)	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
readBitarray(bita, channelList=None)	
ChamiciList=None)	

Methods

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

Returns converted data to physical value

$\verb|mdf4reader.valueToValueTableWInterpConv| (vect, cc_val)$

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

Returns converted data to physical value

$\verb|mdf4reader.valueToValueTableWOInterpConv| (\textit{vect}, \textit{cc_val})$

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

Returns converted data to physical value

CHAPTER

SIX

MDFINFO4 MODULE DOCUMENTATION

Measured Data Format blocks paser for version 4.x

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

Dependencies

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

Attributes

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

mdfinfo4 module

class mdfinfo4.ATBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Attachment block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.CABlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Channel Array block and saves in class dict

Methods

```
class mdfinfo4.CCBlock (fid, pointer)
```

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Channel Conversion block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.CGBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Channel Group block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.CHBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Channel Hierarchy block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.CNBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Channel block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.CommentBlock (fid, pointer, MDType=None)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Comment block and saves in class dict

Notes

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

Methods

extractXmlField(xml_tree, field)

Extract Xml field from a xml tree

 $\begin{picture}(c) \textbf{Parameters} & \textbf{xml_tree}: \textbf{xml tree from xml.etree}. Element Tree \end{picture}$

field: str

Returns field value in xml tree

class mdfinfo4.DGBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Data Group block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.EVBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Event block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.FHBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads File History block and save in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.HDBlock (fid, pointer=64)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Header block and save in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.IDBlock (fid)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads ID Block and save in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

Bases: dict

MDFBlock base class for the MDF related block classes

Methods

loadHeader(fid, pointer)	reads block's header and put in class dict
mdfblockread(fid, type, count)	converts a byte array of length count to a given data type
mdfblockreadCHAR(fid, count) reads a character chain of length count encoded in latin	
mdfblockreadBYTE(fid, count)	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

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```
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

class mdfinfo4.SIBlock (fid, pointer)

Bases: mdfinfo4.MDFBlock

reads Source Information block and saves in class dict

Methods

class mdfinfo4.SRBlock (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

```
fileName (str) name of file
```

Methods

```
listChannels4 (fileName=None)
     Read MDF file and extract its complete structure
         Parameters fileName: str
               file name
         Returns list of channel names contained in file
readATBlock (selfself, 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
```

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```
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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CHAPTER

SEVEN

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