

Gammapy: A Python package for gamma-ray astronomy

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ABSTRACT

Historically the data as well as analysis software in gamma-ray astronomy is proprietary to the experiments. With the future Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA), which will be operated as an open gamma-ray observatory with public data, there is a corresponding need for open high-level analysis software. In this article we present the first major version v1.0 of Gammapy, a community-developed open-source Python package for gamma-ray astronomy. We present its general design and provide an overview of the analysis methods and features it implements. Starting from event lists and a description of the specific instrument response functions (IRF) stored in open FITS based data formats, Gammapy implements . Thereby it handles the dependency of the IRFs with time, energy as well as position on the sky. It offers a variety of background estimation methods for spectral, spatial and spectro-morphological analysis. Counts, background and IRFs data are bundled in datasets and can be serialised, rebinned and stacked. Gammapy supports to model binned data using Poisson maximum likelihood fitting. It comes with built-in spectral, spatial and temporal models as well as support for custom user models, to model e.g., energy dependent morphology of gamma-ray sources. Multiple datasets can be combined in a joint-likelihood approach to either handle time dependent IRFs, different classes of events or combination of data from multiple instruments. Gammapy also implements methods to estimate flux points, including likelihood profiles per energy bin, light curves as well as flux and significance maps in energy bins. We further describe the general development approach and how Gammapy integrates into ecosystem of other scientific and astronomical Python packages. We also present analysis examples with simulated CTA data and provide results of scientific validation analyses using data of existing instruments such as H.E.S.S. and Fermi-LAT .

Key words. Gamma rays: general - Astronomical instrumentation, methods and techniques - Methods: data analysis

1. Introduction

TODO: Axel and Regis write this...

Gamma-ray astronomy is a rather young field of research. By detecting and reconstructing arrival direction, time and energy of primary cosmic gamma-rays the gamma-ray sky is either observed by ground based instruments, driven by experiments with proprietary software often based on ROOT, because of the particle physics background. Such as HESS, Veritas or Magic.

The Cherenkov Telescope Array will be operated as an open observatory for the first time. Thus there is a need for open analysis software as well.

Once the primary photons are reconstructed the format of the data of all Gamma-ray instruments can be brought into a common format. An effort is the gamma-astro data formats tbd (all contributors to the spec). The data format is based on FITS (Pence et al. 2010).

In recent years Python ¹ has established as one of the standard programming languages for astronomy ² as well as data sciences in general ³. The success is mostly attributed to the simple and easy to learn syntax, the ability to act as a "glue" language between different programming lan-

¹ <http://fits.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

² Citation missing

³ Citation missing

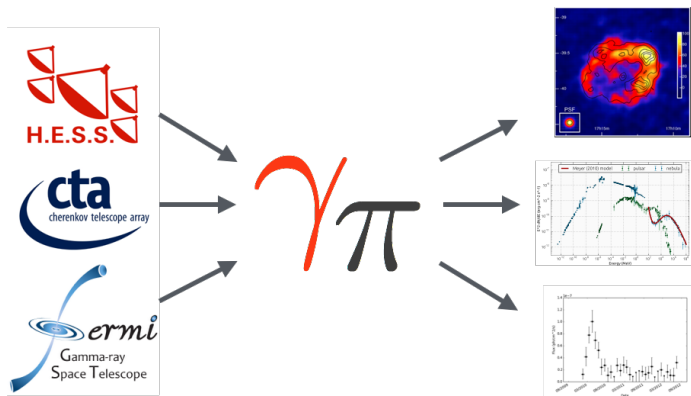


Fig. 1. Gammapy is a Python package for high-level gamma-ray data analysis. Using event lists, exposures and point spread functions as input you can use it to generate science results such as images, spectra, light curves or source catalogs. So far it has been used to simulate and analyse H.E.S.S., CTA and Fermi-LAT data, hopefully it will also be applied to e.g., VERITAS, MAGIC or HAWC data in the future.

guages, the rich eco-system of packages and the open and supportive community.

Astronomical data analysis software written in Python existed since 2000. e.g., sherpa (Refsdal et al. 2011, 2009), or for gamma-ray even PyFACT (Raue & Deil 2012).

The short-term success of Python led to a proliferation of packages, until Astropy (Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013) was created in 2012. Astropy is and Gammapy is a Python package for gamma-ray astronomy.

TODO: Figure 1: Data -> Gammapy -> Spectra etc with some details

Basic idea: build on Numpy and Astropy, use Python stack

TODO: Figure 2: Gammapy software stack

Here's a list of references I'd like to cite ... to be incorporated into the main text somewhere:

- Gammapy webpage⁴
- Naima⁵ (Zabalza 2015)
- Gammapy use in science publications: (Owen et al. 2015), SNR shell, HGPS

* Gammapy – A Python package for gamma-ray astronomy * Gammapy – A prototype for the CTA science tools * Astropy: A community Python package for astronomy * THE ASTROPY PROJECT: BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE, OPEN-SCIENCE PROJECT AND STATUS OF THE V2.0 CORE PACKAGE * GammaLib and ctools * Fermipy proceedings * SunPy: Python for Solar Physics. An implementation for local correlation tracking *

2. Analysis Workflow Overview

3. Gammapy package

The Gammapy package is structured into multiple sub-packages which mostly follow the stages in the data reduction workflow.

⁴ <http://gammapy.org>

⁵ <https://github.com/zblz/naima>

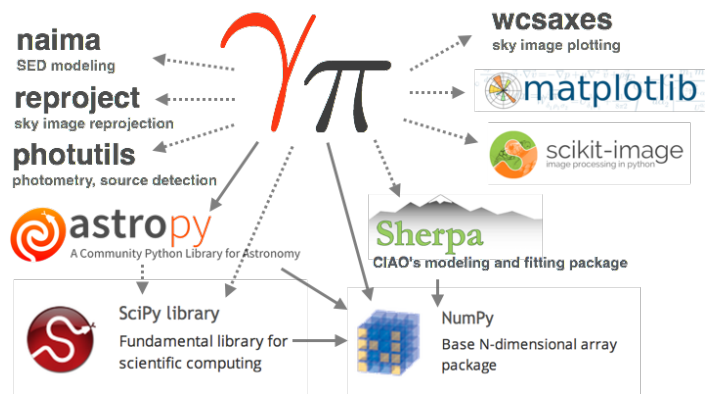


Fig. 2. The Gammapy stack. Required dependencies Numpy and Astropy are illustrated with solid arrows, optional dependencies (the rest) with dashed arrows.

3.1. Overview

Outline: * List typical analysis use cases * Can use from Python and Jupyter -> show Figure with Jupyter notebook here. * Gammapy code structure * How Numpy and Astropy is used

Figures: * Add a Figure showing dataflow in a typical application DL3 at the top, spectrum, map, lightcurve, fit results at the bottom. Mention major classes in between (DataStore, EventList, Map, MapMaker, MapFit, ...) * Probably not: Figure showing sub-packages and how they relate (gammapy.data and gammapy.irf at the base, then gammapy.maps, etc. * The code example Figure how to make a counts map, to explain how the package works.

TODO: How to sort the sub-packages? After data flow or alphabetically?

3.2. gammapy.analysis

TODO: Jose Enrique writes this... High level analysis API

3.3. gammapy.astro

TODO: Axel Donath Dark matter models, source population modelling

3.4. gammapy.catalog

TODO: Axel Donath Gamma-ray catalog access

3.5. gammapy.data

TODO: Cosimo Nigro The gammapy.data sub-package provides access to DL3 level data and observation handling.

3.6. gammapy.datasets

TODO: Atreyee Sinha DL4 level data

3.7. gammapy.estimators

TODO: Axel Donath Estimators

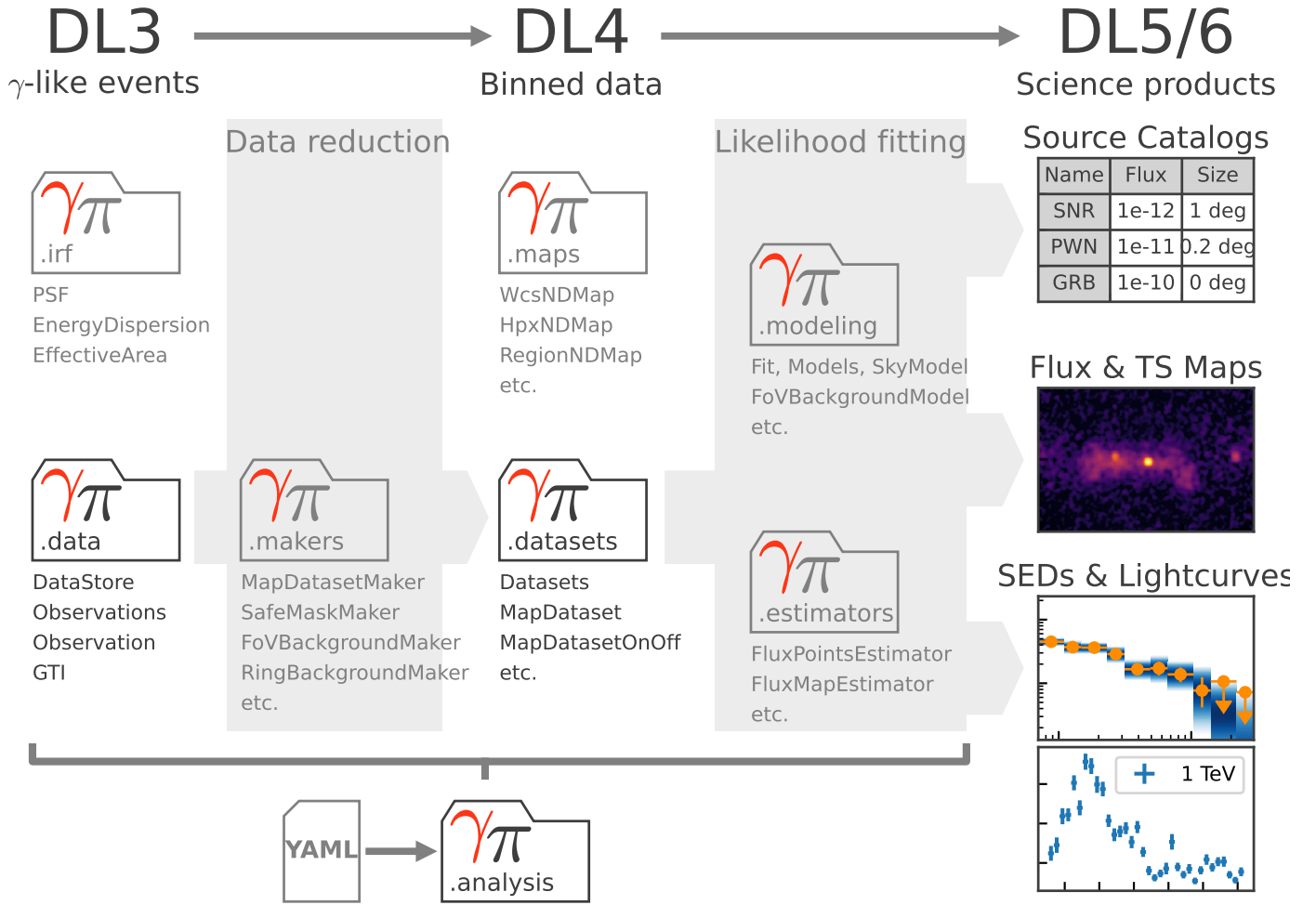


Fig. 3. Gammapy sub-package structure and data analysis workflow.

```

1 from gammapy.catalog import SOURCE_CATALOGS
2
3 catalog = SOURCE_CATALOGS["3fhl"]

```

Fig. 4. Using gammapy.catalogs

```

1 from gammapy.data import DataStore
2
3 data_store = DataStore.from_dir("$GAMMAPY_DATA")
4 obs_ids = [1, 2, 3]
5 observations = data_store.get_observations(obs_ids)

```

Fig. 5. Using gammapy.data to access DL3 level data with a DataStore

3.8. gammapy.irf

TODO: Fabio Pintore IRF classes

3.9. gammapy.makers

TODO: Regis Terrier Data reduction

```

1 from astropy.coordinates import SkyCoord
2 from gammapy.maps import WcsGeom
3 from gammapy.datasets import MapDataset
4
5 skydir = SkyCoord("0d", "0d")
6 geom = WcsGeom.create(
7     skydir=skydir, width="5 deg", binsz="0.2 deg"
8 )
9
10 dataset = MapDataset.create(
11     geom=geom, name="my-dataset"
12 )

```

Fig. 6. Using gammapy.data to access DL3 level data with a DataStore

3.10. gammapy.modeling

TODO: Quentin Remy Models and fitting

3.11. gammapy.stats

TODO: Regis Terrier Statistics methods

```

1 from gammapy.makers import MapDatasetMaker
2
3 maker = MapDatasetMaker()
4 dataset = maker.run(dataset, observation)

```

Fig. 7. Using gammapy.data to access DL3 level data

```

1 from gammapy.modeling.models import (
2     SkyModel,
3     PowerLawSpectralModel,
4     PointSpatialModel,
5 )
6
7 pwl = PowerLawSpectralModel()
8 point = PointSpatialModel()
9
10 model = SkyModel(
11     spectral_model=pwl,
12     spatial_model=point,
13     name="my-model",
14 )

```

Fig. 8. Using gammapy.modeling.models

3.12. gammapy.utils

Utility functions...

3.13. gammapy.visualisation

TODO: Axel Donath Plotters etc.

4. Applications

Each application example is a notebook in the online material: We could have one analysis as Python scripts instead of notebook in the online material. At the start of this section, point to gammapy-paper repo on Github and say that there's a Binder where people can try the examples online.

TODO: mention other application examples (joint Crab paper, HESS validation paper, HGPS, ...) here or in a subsection "other applications" at the end of this section?

4.1. Source detection

See Figure 9.

Ref: (Stewart 2009)

4.2. Multi instrument analysis

4.3. CTA simulation

CTA application example. 3D simulate and fit using public prod3 IRFs. AGN pop (Santiago), GRB pop (Thierry), PeVatrons?, GPS (Quentin) Diffuse emission + maybe a shell -> image and spectrum come out.

4.4. HESS

TODO: Catherine, Bruno

In September 2018 the HESS collaboration released a small subset of Gamma-ray data.

Maybe HESS Light curve using PKS flare from HESS

4.5. Fermi

Fermi: Galactic center, as in our notebook, same region as CTA.

5. Gammapy project

Open development, roadmap, communities, science tool aspect Infrastructure etc.

community driven vs. institutional driven

Validation and benchmarks? Validation as online appendix...

5.1. Development, testing

TODO: Jose Enrique writes this... -Github, pytest, CI, PIGs?

5.2. Documentation

- Notebooks

5.3. Software distribution and user support

- Pip, conda, versions, gammapy download

5.4. Community

TODO: Figure: Screenshot of Jupyter notebook or docs with notebook, could show the interactive maps view

```

m = Map.read("diffuse.fits")
m.plot_interactive()

```

6. Summary and Outlook

TODO: Axel and Regis write this...

Summary what we have in v0.9 and presented in this paper.

Roadmap to v1.0, about half a page.

Short conclusion: Gammapy has potential to be the Python package for gamma-ray astronomy.

Prospects for HAWC / SWGO? Or speak in general about water Cherenkov observatories...

Acknowledgements. Mention Christoph here? We would like to thank the Numpy, Scipy, IPython and Matplotlib communities for providing their packages which are invaluable to the development of Astropy. We thank the GitHub team for providing us with an excellent free development platform. We also are grateful to Read the Docs (<https://readthedocs.org/>), and Travis (<https://www.travis-ci.org/>) for providing free documentation hosting and testing respectively. Finally, we would like to thank all the Gammapy users that have provided feedback and submitted bug reports. **TODO:** copy over stuff from <http://docs.gammapy.org/en/latest/about.html#thanks>. **TODO:** add the ANR for Luca (and Atréyee in LUPM?)

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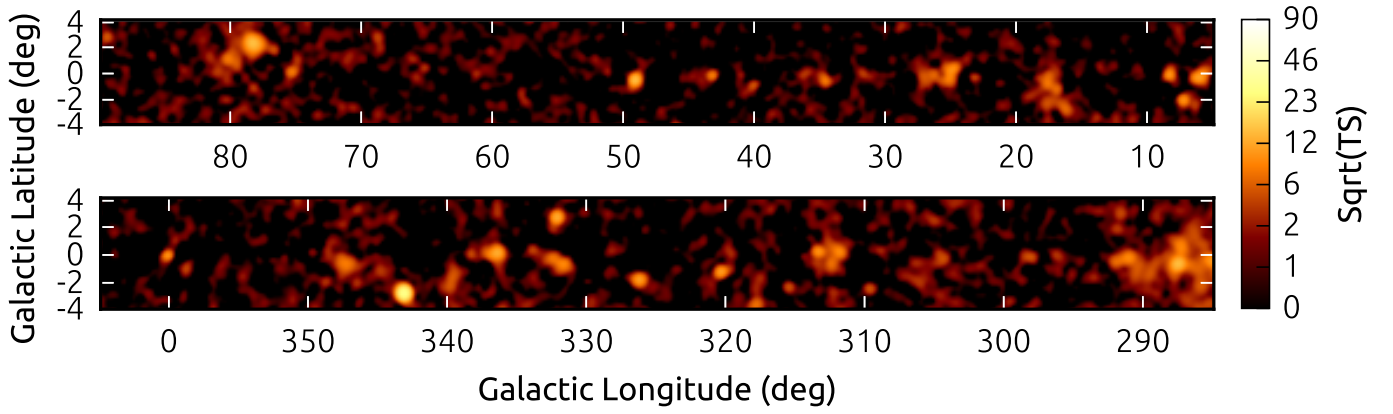


Fig. 9. Gammapy application example: A Fermi survey TS map of the inner Galactic plane region.

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Raue, M. & Deil, C. 2012, in American Institute of Physics Conference Series, Vol. 1505, American Institute of Physics Conference Series, ed. F. A. Aharonian, W. Hofmann, & F. M. Rieger, 789–792

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Refsdal, B. L., Doe, S. M., Nguyen, D. T., et al. 2009, in 8th SciPy Conference, 51 – 57

Stewart, I. M. 2009, A&A, 495, 989

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Zabalza, V. 2015, ArXiv e-prints [arXiv:1509.03319]

- ¹ Amazon, Atlanta GA, US
- ² Aperio Software, Insight House, Riverside Business Park, Stoney Common Road, Stansted, Essex, CM24 8PL, UK
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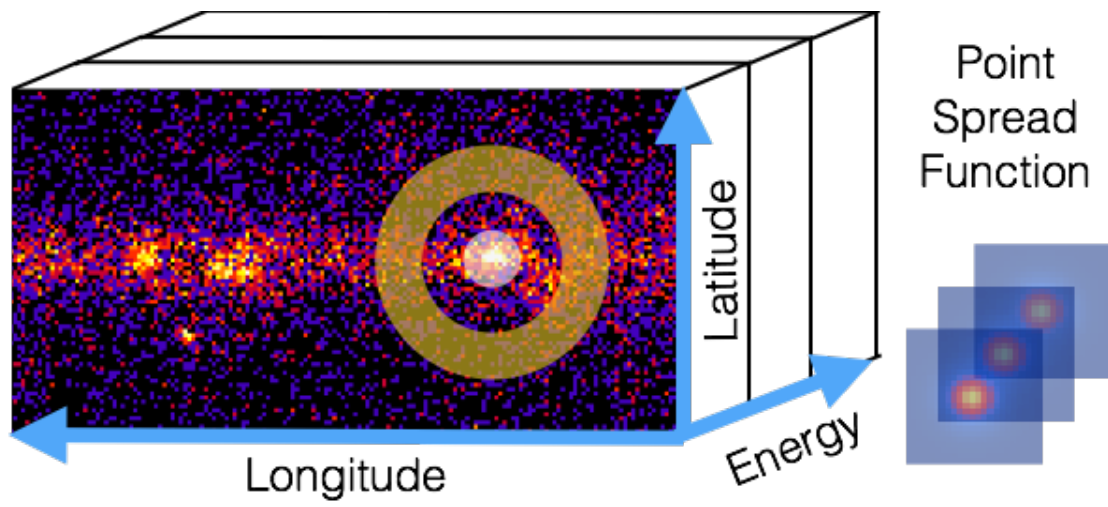


Fig. 10. Gammapy data model illustration. Binned analysis of lon-lat-energy cube data is supported via joint likelihood analysis of one image per energy bin. On-off-region based spectral analysis is supported as well.