DSN Radio Astronomy Single Dish FITS User's Guide

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Preface

DSN SDFITS Convention

Command Line

Plotting

Programs

Monitor and Control

Appendix A gives some suggestions for configuring a Linux workstation for reducing DSN radio astronomy spectral line data.

Appendix B gives a quick introduction to Python in which the M&C software is written. A convention used in this document is that if an object is shown capitalized (e.g. Receiver and in typewriter font, it is also a Python class. A class is a programming unit that serves as a template for objects that are similar to each other. In general, a single word in typewriter font refers to an attribute while one followed by empty parentheses is a method.

Appendix C descibes the circular polarization convention used in astronomy and how two orthogonal linear polarizations can be converted to counter-rotating circular polarizations.

 ${f Appendix}\ {f D}$ describes complex data samples can be generated and used to separate lower and upper sidebands.

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Acronyms and Technical Terms

ADC - analog-to-digital converter.

DAC - digital-to-analog converter.

IF - intermediate frequency (signal)

I/O - input/output

I/Q - in-phase/quadrature-phase, the two components of a complex signal.

K-band - the frequency range 17-27 GHz.

 ${\bf LO}\,$ - local oscillator.

L/U - lower sideband/upper sideband, a signal pair obtained from I/Q.

MSB - most significant bit (or byte, depending on context).

RF - radio frequency (signal)

VLBI - very long baseline interferometry

WBDC - wide-band down-converter, a class of receiver.

 \mathbf{WVSR} - wideband VLBI science receiver

Introduction

The Deep Space Network conducts front-line radio astronomy research at its three deep space communication complexes (DSCC), near Canberra (Australia), Goldstone (California), and Madrid (Spain). Each Complex supports radio astronomers active in their host countries, as well as guest investigators from around the world. It is important for inter-operability that the DSN uses data file formats which are compatible with those used in those communities. At the same time, because of limited workforce resources, all Complexes must adhere to a common standard.

The Single Dish FITS convention [Liszt(1995)] (SDFITS) was developed around 1989, mostly for spectral line astronomy, and different implementations evolved at various institutions. A standard was registered in 2012 [Pence(2012)]. However, interpretations are not uniform resulting in SDFITS files that have different structures, such as those from the Green Bank Telescope and the Parkes and MOPRA telescopes.

The goal of the DSN version of SDFITS is to allow full recording of spectral line data and metadata from a wide variety of backends. The general philosophy is that anything which does not violate the accepted SINGLE DISH standard is allowed. This means that to reduce data with an existing package such as ASAP, CLASS, or GBTIDL will probably require a (probably quite simple) conversion from a DSN SDFITS file to one adhering to a different convention.

This document describes tools available for using Python to reduce and analyze data in DSN SDFITS format.

In addition to the SINGLE DISH extension, DSN FITS defines additional extensions for phase calibrator tones extracted from spectral line data (the PGC TONES) extension and tipping curves (the TIPPING CURVE) extension.

DSN SDFITS Convention

2.1 Overview

This summarizes the features of the DSN convention for SDFITS.

- Multidimensional columns in addition to the DATA column are allowed as long as they have the same dimensions as the DATA column.
- The CYCLE column is used to distinguish sub-channels for those spectrometers in which smaller bands are extracted from a single IF band.
- One extension per spectrometer avoids mixing spectra of different lengths in the same table.
- Uncalibrated TSYS proxy is created using the average power in the spectra when power meters are not available. The UNIT for the TSYS column is then count instead of K.
- A PCG TONES extension for calibration tones has a set of sub-spectra extracted from each tone from very high resolution data.
- A TIPPING CURVE extension for power meter scans between low and highlightelevations.

An extension for extension for ambient-load/noise-diode calibrations is planned.

2.2 Multidimensional Columns

The main difference between the DSN and other conventions is that any table column may be multi-dimensional as long as the meaning and order of the axes, except the first, is the same. To illustrate this, consider a receiver with two feeds, each having two polarized outputs and

a backend which produces ten 4096 channel spectra per scan. The DSN convention follows the NRAO one in that the DATA column would have TDIM(4096,1,1,2,10,2). If a system temperature is measured for each IF (*i.e* for each beam and polarization), the TSYS column would have cells which are numpy arrays with dimension (1,1,1,2,10,2). Note that this column does not require a separate TDIM because all the axis meanings are the same and the length of the first axis can be obtained from the array.shape attribute.

2.3 Data File Storage

FITS files are stored in sub-directories of /usr/local/RA_data/FITS/ using the Python LFS convention. That means that only the computer that created the file and the remote repository on ra.jpl.nasa.gov have the actual data. Other computers in the DSN Radio Astronomy IT infrastructure have LFS objects which represent those files. To use a file on one of the other computers it must be explicitly fetched with the git lfs pull command. Please see the DSAO User's Guide for further information.

2.4 The PCG TONES Extension

In addition to a SINGLE DISH extension, these files have a TONES PCG extension which contains information derived from the phase calibration generator (PCG). This includes the data from 32 channels of the original high resolution (131072 channel) spectrum surrounding each tone.

2.5 The TIPPING CURVE Extension

2.6 Examples

2.6.1 FITS File (HDU List)

Snippet 2.1 sows the contents of a typical DSN FITS file consisting of a primary header and data unit (HD), three SINGLE DISH extensions and two TIPPING CURVE extensions.

2.6.2 File Header

Code snippet 2.2 shows the header of a typical DSN SDFITS file. The file has been opened using the pyfits package.

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```
In [2]: ff = pyfits.open("SAO_2015-204.fits")
In [3]: ff.info()
Filename: SAO_2015-204.fits
                             Cards
                                     Dimensions
                                                  Format
No.
      Name
                   Туре
0
    PRIMARY
                PrimaryHDU
                                14
                                      ()
    SINGLE DISH BinTableHDU
1
                                170
                                      2R x 51C
                                                    [1I, 1I, 16A, 16A, 8A, 1L, 1L, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1I, 1D,
                                                     1D, 8A, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 7D, 7D, 7E, 7E, 7E, 7E,
                                                     7E, 7E, 7E, 7E, 7E, 28D, 1D, 1I, 1D, 1D, 1I, 1D, 1D,
                                                     1I, 1D, 1I, 1I, 1I, 1E, 1I, 1E, 1I, 1I, 1I, 917504E]
    SINGLE DISH BinTableHDU
                                      12R x 51C
                                                    [1I, 1I, 16A, 16A, 8A, 1L, 1L, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1I, 1D,
                                                     1D, 8A, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 22D, 22D, 22E, 22E, 22E,
                                                     22E, 22E, 22E, 22E, 22E, 22E, 88D, 1D, 1I, 1D, 1D, 1I,
                                                     1D, 1D, 1I, 1D, 1I, 1I, 1I, 1E, 1I, 1E, 1I, 1I, 1I,
                                                     2883584E]
    SINGLE DISH BinTableHDU
                                      2R x 51C
                                                    [1I, 1I, 16A, 16A, 8A, 1L, 1L, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1I, 1D,
                                170
                                                     1D, 8A, 1E, 1E, 1E, 1E, 25D, 25D, 25E, 25E, 25E,
                                                     25E, 25E, 25E, 25E, 25E, 25E, 100D, 1D, 1I, 1D, 1D,
                                                     1I, 1D, 1D, 1I, 1D, 1I, 1I, 1I, 1E, 1I, 1E, 1I, 1I,
                                                     1I, 3276800E]
    TIPPING CURVE BinTableHDU
                                         468R x 9C
                                                      [1I, 1I, 16A, 1E, 1D, 1I, 1I, 1E, 1E]
    TIPPING CURVE BinTableHDU
                                        456R x 9C
5
                                                      [1I, 1I, 16A, 1E, 1D, 1I, 1I, 1E, 1E]
                                   43
```

Snippet 2.1: Contents of a typical SINGLE DISH file.

```
In [10]: hdulist[0].header.ascardlist()
Out[10]:
STMPLE =
                             T / conforms to FITS standard
BITPIX =
                             8 / array data type
NAXIS
                             0 / number of array dimensions
EXTEND =
BLOCKED = 'T
     = '2017/09/29'
DATE
ORIGIN = 'FITSfile.__init__'
TELESCOP= 'DSS-14 '
SITELONG=
                   116.888653 / degrees west of Greenwich
SITELAT =
                   35.4259278 / degrees
SITEELEV=
                      1031.81 / meters
                  -2353621.251 / meters
OBSGEO-X=
                  -4641341.542 / meters
OBSGEO-Y=
OBSGEO-Z=
                    3677052.37 / meters
```

Snippet 2.2: Header of a typical SINGLE DISH file.

2.6.3 SINGLE DISH Extension Header

Code snippet 2.3 shows a typical SDFITS extension header for data acquired with a WVSR. Because WVSR data are processed into Stokes parameters, there is a IFSPECTR column with moderate resolution power spectra of the signals from which the Stokes parameters (DATA) were computed.

If only one polarization was available, it will be RCP (the standard DSN telecommunications polarization sense) and the fourth axis as well as the IFSPECTR column would be dropped.

```
XTENSION= 'BINTABLE'
                             / binary table extension
BITPIX =
                           8 / array data type
NAXIS =
                           2 / number of array dimensions
NAXIS1 =
                    139492 / length of dimension 1
NAXIS2 =
                       130 / length of dimension 2
PCOUNT =
                         0 / number of group parameters
GCOUNT =
                          1 / number of groups
TFIELDS =
                         46 / number of table fields
EXTNAME = 'SINGLE DISH'
                           / required keyword value
                         1 / one DATA column
NMATRIX =
                        / raw receiver frequency
/ DSN standard time
/ front end ID
/ receiver ID
VELDEF = 'FREQ-OBS'
TIMESYS = 'UTC' '
FRONTEND= 'X14'
FRONTEND= 'X14
RECEIVER= 'X14
PROJID = 'AUTO_EGG'
OBSERVER= 'cjn
TELESCOP= 'DSS-14 '
BACKEND = 'wvsr2 '
MAXIS1 =
                        8192 / length of DATA axis 1
FREQRES =
                61.03515625
CTYPE1 = 'FREQ-OBS'
                    / channel frequency in telescope frame
CTYPE2 = 'RA---GLS'
                            / RA J2000.0
MAXIS2 =
                          1
CTYPE3 = 'DEC--GLS'
                             / decl. J2000
MAXIS3 =
CTYPE4 = 'STOKES '
                            / polarization code: 1,2,3,4
MAXIS4 =
TTYPE41 = 'CRVAL4'
TFORM41 = '1I
TTYPE42 = 'CRPIX4'
TFORM42 = '1I
TTYPE43 = 'CDELT4'
TFORM43 = '1I
TTYPE44 = 'DATA
TFORM44 = '32768E '
TDIM44 = '(8192,1,1,4)'
TTYPE45 = 'TSYS'
TFORM45 = '2E
TUNIT45 = 'K
TDIM45 = '(1,1,1,2)'
TTYPE46 = 'IFSPECTR'
TFORM46 = '2048E
TDIM46 = '(1024,1,1,2)'
```

Snippet 2.3: Part of a header of a typical SINGLE DISH extension for WVSR data.

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The antenna coordinates are redundant because they are in the primary header. This is simply for convenience.

2.6.4 SINGLE DISH Extension Columns

Code snippet 2.4 shows the columns of a typical SINGLE DISH table. The files derived from DSN telecommunications receivers typically contain Stokes parameter spectra which means that the DATA column cells have four dimensions (frequency, right ascension, declination and Stokes parameter). Snippet 2.5 shows all the column names for a WVSR table.

```
In [13]: hdulist[1].columns
Out.[13]:
ColDefs(
   name = 'SCAN'; format = '11'
   name = 'CYCLE'; format = '1I'
   name = 'DATE-OBS'; format = '16A'
   name = 'OBJECT'; format = '16A'
   name = 'OBSMODE'; format = '8A'
   name = 'SIG'; format = '1L'
   name = 'CAL'; format = '1L'
   name = 'TCAL'; format = '1E'
   name = 'EXPOSURE'; format = '1E'; unit = 's'
   name = 'TIME'; format = '1E'; unit = 's'
   name = 'BANDWIDT'; format = '1E'; unit = 'Hz'
   name = 'SIDEBAND'; format = '1A'
   name = 'RESTFREQ'; format = '1D'; unit = 'Hz'
   name = 'OBSFREQ'; format = '1D'; unit = 'Hz'
   name = 'VELDEF'; format = '8A'
   name = 'RVSYS'; format = '1E'; unit = 'm/s'
   name = 'VFRAME'; format = '1E'; unit = 'm/s'
   name = 'VELOCITY'; format = '1E'; unit = 'm/s'
   name = 'EQUINOX'; format = '1E'
   name = 'FOFFREF1'; format = '1E'; unit = 'Hz'
   name = 'BEAMXOFF'; format = 'E'; unit = 'deg'
   name = 'BEAMEOFF'; format = 'E'; unit = 'deg'
   name = 'LST'; format = '1D'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'UNIXtime'; format = '1D'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'AZIMUTH'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'ELEVATIO'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'TAMBIENT'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'PRESSURE'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'HUMIDITY'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'WINDSPEE'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'WINDDIRE'; format = '1E'; dim = '(1,)'
   name = 'CRVAL1'; format = '1D'; unit = 'Hz'
   name = 'CDELT4'; format = '11'
   name = 'SPECTRUM'; format = '32768E'; dim = '(8192,1,1,4)'
   name = 'IFSPECTR'; format = '2048E'; dim = '(1024,1,1,2)'
   name = 'TSYS'; format = '2E'; dim = '(1,1,1,2)'
```

Snippet 2.4: Columns of a typical SINGLE DISH extension.

```
In [4]: sa.examiners[0].tables[0].columns.names
Out. [4]:
['SCAN',
                         'DATE-OBS', 'OBJECT',
                                                'OBSMODE', 'SIG',
                                                                                    'TCAL',
             'CYCLE'.
                                                                        'CAL'.
                        'BANDWIDT', 'SIDEBAND', 'RESTFREQ', 'OBSFREQ', 'VELDEF',
 'EXPOSURE', 'TIME',
                                                                                    'RVSYS',
            'VELOCITY', 'EQUINOX', 'FOFFREF1', 'BEAMXOFF', 'BEAMEOFF', 'LST',
'AZIMUTH', 'ELEVATIO', 'TAMBIENT', 'PRESSURE', 'HUMIDITY', 'WINDSPEE', 'WINDDIRE', 'CRVAL1',
                        'CRVAL2', 'CRPIX2', 'CDELT2', 'CRVAL3',
 'CRPIX1',
            'CDELT1',
                                                                        'CRPIX3', 'CDELT3',
 'CRVAL4',
            'CRPIX4',
                        'CDELT4',
                                    'DATA',
                                                'TSYS',
                                                            'IFSPECTR']
```

Snippet 2.5: Column names of a typical SINGLE DISH extension for WVSR data.

Command Line

While one may generally want to use a Python program to avoid repetitive actions, for simple tasks the Python command line is often the quickest and clearest way to obtain results. It also serves as a convenient way to recall attributes and methods of classes used in data reduction. Classes for data retrieval and examination are desribed below.

3.1 Class SessionAnalyzer

Snippet 3.1 introduces the main class for analyzing data from an observing session. When invoked without arguments the class initialization will query for the observing session details. The project ID is only used for knowing where to store any data reduction results. It is not used in the math to the FITS file.

Initiating a SessionAnalyzer causes each of the FITS files for the session to be assigned a DSNFITSplotter object which opens the file for data reduction. The DSNFITSplotter class is a subclass of DSNFITSexaminer. Plotting is described in the next chapter.

3.2 Class DSNFITSexaminer

This class operates on FITS files. It has methods specifically for DSN SDFITS files. However, it will open any FITS file. The DSNFITSexaminer object will also open any SINGLE DISH extensions with the private Table class.

3.2.1 Key Attributes

The main attributes of the DSNFITSexaminer class are:

file which is the path to and name of the FITS file,
hdulist of the header and data units in the file which can examined with ex0.hdulist.info(),

```
kuiper@kuiper:~$ ipython
In [1]: from Data_Reduction.SLATool import SessionAnalyzer
In [3]: sa = SessionAnalyzer()
0 > dss14
1 > dss43
Select a station by index: 1
0 > 2001
6 > 2015
7 > 2017
Select a year by index: 6
0 > 204
. . .
7 > 242
Select a day BY INDEX: 0
In [4]: sa?
Type:
           SessionAnalyzer
String Form: <Data_Reduction.SLATool.SessionAnalyzer object at 0x7f630d89fc90>
File:
            /usr/local/lib/python2.7/DSN-Sci-packages/Data_Reduction/SLATool.py
Docstring:
Tool for reducing multiple data reduction sessions
Example::
  In [1]: from Data_Reduction.SLATool import SessionAnalyzer
  In [2]: sa = SessionAnalyzer(project='67P', year=2015, DOY=204)
 In [3]: x, sum_y, sum_Tsys, sum_intgr = sa.get_average()
Constructor Docstring:
initiate a SessionAnalyzer
@param project : name as in /usr/local/projects directory
Otype project : str
@param dss : DSN station
Otype dss : int
@param year : of observing session
Otype year : int
@param DOY : of observing session
Otype DOY: int
```

Snippet 3.1: The SessionAnalyzer class.

header for the FITS file, tables which is a Python dict of the SINGLE DISH binary tables in the file. Usually, a FITS file has only one extension with a table but the DSN convention allows multiple backends and each backend must have its own extension.

3.2.2 Tables

Tables are implemented as classes private to the DSNFITSexaminer class, that is, they are defined within the class. The real work of data reduction is done with tables. This class is still under active development (as of December 23, 2017) but some of the main features should be stable by now. Snippet 3.2 shows the first thing one might want to do when a table has been opened. The convention used with the SAO¹/TAMS² is to have a separate FITS file for each

In	[6]:	tb0	make_directory()				
Row	Scan	ch	Source	Sig	Freq		intg
			0 : "				
C) 1	. 1	Orion-KL	True	22000	U	65
1	. 2	1	Orion-KL	False	22000	U	65

Snippet 3.2: Directory of a FITS file binary table.

source observed as a convenience for data reduction. On the other hand hand, all the data recorded from all the sources in a spectroscopy session using the WVSR backend goes into one FITS file. Then, a method for selecting rows from a table is useful. Snippet 3.3 illustrates this. This illustrates the use of the CYCLE keyword adopted from the ATNF convention for SDFITS.

Operating on Table Rows

To fetch the spectra from a selection of rows, there is the Table method get_spectra(). How the spectra are handled depends on the observing mode.

The dataset shown in Snippet 3.3 were taken in the LINEPSSW mode. The conventional way to reduce these data is to form normalized difference spectra (S_N) from the on-source (S_{sig}) and off-source (S_{ref}) spectra with

$$S_N = \frac{S_{sig} - S_{ref}}{S_{ref}}.$$

Snippet 3.4 implements this. The resulting data cube has two rows, one for each pair of the original ON and OFF rows, with four Stokes parameter spectra of 8192 points.

The data shown in Snippet 3.2 were taken in the LINEPBSW mode. In the SIG=True part of the switch cycle (a pair of scans) the source is in beam 1; in the SIG=FALSE part, the source is in beam 2. This is an attractive mode because there is always a beam taking on-source data. As Snippet 3.5 shows, the reduction is the same. In this case there is only one row (obtained

¹Smithsonian Astrophysical Obervatory

²Tidbinbilla AGN Maser Survey

```
In [2]: tb = sa.examiners[0].tables[0]
In [3]: tb.make_directory()
Row Scan ch
                Source
                             Sig Freq
                                             intg
      1 1
                     Mon_R2 True
                                     8309 U
                                             90
         2
                     Mon_R2
                                     8585 U
  1
      1
                             True
                                             90
  2
      2 1
                     Mon_R2 False
                                     8309 U
                                             90
  3
      2 2
                     Mon_R2 False
                                    8585 U
                                             90
  4
      3 1
                     Mon_R2 True
                                    8309 U
                                             90
      3 2
  5
                     Mon_R2 True
                                    8585 U
                                             90
  6
      4
         1
                     Mon_R2 False
                                    8309 U
                                             91
  7
                     Mon_R2 False
                                    8585 U
220
         1
                 ros-fregg3 True
                                     8309 U
                                              90
    111
                 ros-fregg3 True
221
    111 2
                                     8585 U
                                              90
222
    112 1
                 ros-fregg3 False
                                    8309 U
223
                 ros-fregg3 False
    112 2
                                     8585 U
                                             12
    124 2
                 ros-fregg3 False
                                     8585 U
224
225 128 2
                            False
                                       0 None
In [5]: tb.select({'OBJECT': 'Mon_R2', 'CYCLE': 1})
Out[5]: [0, 2, 4, 6]
In [6]: tb.select({'OBJECT': 'Mon_R2', 'CYCLE': 2})
Out[6]: [1, 3, 5, 7]
```

Snippet 3.3: irectory of a FITS file binary table obtained with a WVSR configured for two frequency channels.

Snippet 3.4: Reducing position-switched spectral line data.

from the original rows 0 and 1) and the data cube has has two values on the BEAM axis, seven records on the TIME axis, and two polarizations with a 32768 channel spectrum for each. For the first beam the spectrum is what one would expect but for the second beam it is negative. So, in a final step, one computes (beam₁-beam₂/2).

Snippet 3.5: Position switched reduction of beam-switched data.

Table Methods for Data Reduction

There are many Table methods to support data reduction. We highlight a few here:

- get_table_stats() gets the number of scans, cycles, rows and observing modes used in the table;
- get_indices(scan=1, cycle=1, pol=1, beam=1, record=1, trimmed=False) returns indices
 for getting one spectrum from SPECTRUM column;
- get_index_keys() which returns labels that can be associated with the index keys, such as
 row, beam, record, pol, dec, and RA;
- freqs(row=0) computes frequencies for spectra in the specified row in MHz based on the values
 of CRVAL1, CDELT1, and CRPIX1;
- normalized_beam_diff(rows) computes (on-source-off-source)/off-source for each record and each pol for spectrometers with data from two or more beams;
- BPSW_spectra(rows, Tsys=None, weighted=False) returns normalized record-by-record onbeam minus off-beam for data with a TIME azis;
- BPSW_average(rows, weighted=False, TAMS_hack=True) produces scaled, averaged spectra for each scan pair³; and,
- scans_average(rows, weighted=True, TAMS_hack=True) averages the scans weighted by int. time and $1/T_{sus}^2$.

With the TAMS spectrometer, the entire 32,768 channel 1020 MHz spectra are seldom useful and so there is a method to extract data subsets into Data class objects.

- Class Data is a private class of the Table class consisting of a set X-Y data with associated attributes and methods for subsets of a full spectrum.
- extract_window(rows, data=None, Tsys=None, intgr=None, xlimits=(0,32767) extracts a subset of a SPECTRUM column. Additional arguments are frame="CHAN-OBS" and source="67P"). The datacube can be specified by a list of rows with the given X-axis limits, in which case the spectra will be extracted from the SPECTRUM column. Or, a data cube returned from normalized_beam_diff(), 'BPSW_spectra(), BPSW_average(),

 $^{^3}$ TAMS_hack uses beam 2 for both the SIG and REF T_{sys} because the beam 1 data are not available.

or scans_average() can be provided. In the case of latter two averaging methods, the averaged system temperatures and integration times returned by these methods can also be provided. The X limits are in units appropriate to the frame. The corresponding channel numbers will be computed as Data attributes.

rel_freq_units(frame="FREQ-OBS", ref_freq=None, v_frame=0, row=0) used by extract window() to compute the X-axis units for various reference frames.

Computing Atmospheric Opacity

The Table class also has methods for analyzing the implicit tipping curve data provided by the system temperatures and telescope elevations recorded while taking spectral line data.

- validate_wx_data() ensure that the tipping curve data are usable by making sure that at least some are good and creates a mask for those.
- get_wx_datacubes() creates data for analyzing environmental conditions. It returns a dict with keys UNIXtime, ELEVATIO, TSYS, TAMBIENT, PRESSURE, HUMIDITY, WINDSPEE and WINDDIRE. The data associated with each key is a dict with numpy array for SIG with values True and False. The TSYS array has four axes representing time index(a 0-based sequence in order of matplotlib), datenum (matplotlib.dates time), subchannel (CYCLE value), beam (1-based number sequence) and IF (1-based number sequence, usually representing the POL axis value). The other keys have only a time axis.
- fit_mean_power_to_airmass(Tvac_func, first=0, last=None, replace=False) fits the mean power data vs airmass to the radiative transfer equation. This assumes that every IF has a way of measuring power. The measured power is a single value along the first axis of the data array (or last index in a C/Python array). If there are multiple records, i.e. a TIME axis then they will be averaged.

It turns out that for the DSN spectrometers, the power averaged over the entire spectrum is a good proxy for system temperature, barring a scaling factor. So when power-meter-based system temperatures are not available this average spectrum power is saved in the TSYS column but with the column unit set to count instead of K.

The scaling factor can be estimated if one has a previously determined zero airmass value for system temperature. If one is confident about that procedure then setting the replace argument to True.

3.3 Processing Tipping Curves

Besides the DSNFITSexaminer. Table method fit_mean_power_to_airmass() which uses data from the SINGLE DISH extensions, there is also a class TidTipAnalyzer which works with TIPPING CURVE extensions. Instances of this class are created whenever the initialization of DSNFITSexaminer finds TIPPING CURVE extensions. These become items in the

DSNFITSexaminer attribute tctables. Snippet 3.6 shows how one inspects the data to select the ranges to be fitted sa is the name of the SessionAnalyzer which was started by program

```
kuiper@kuiper:.../DSN-Sci-packages/Data_Reduction/FITS/apps/postproc$ ipython --pylab
In [1]: run interactive.py --date=2015/204 --dss=43 --project=67P
In [2]: from Data_Reduction.tipping import airmass
In [3]: rows = numpy.where(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['CYCLE'] == 1)
In [4]: plot(airmass(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['ELEVATIO'][rows]),
                     sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['TSYS'][rows],
                                                                           label="PM1")
Out[4]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7f77be081a10>]
In [5]: rows = numpy.where(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['CYCLE'] == 2)
In [6]: plot(airmass(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['ELEVATIO'][rows]),
                     sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['TSYS'][rows],
                                                                           label="PM2")
Out[6]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7f77be070dd0>]
In [7]: rows = numpy.where(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['CYCLE'] == 3)
In [8]: plot(airmass(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['ELEVATIO'][rows]),
                                                                           label="PM3")
                     sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['TSYS'][rows],
Out[8]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7f77bdd91490>]
In [9]: rows = numpy.where(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['CYCLE'] == 4)
In [10]: plot(airmass(sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['ELEVATIO'][rows]),
                      sa.examiners[0].tctables[0].data['TSYS'][rows],
                                                                           label="PM4")
In [11]: legend()
In [12]: grid()
In [13]: xlabel('Air mass')
In [14]: ylabel('System temperature (K)')
In [16]: title("2015/204")
```

Snippet 3.6: Example of using the TidTipAnalyzer class to inspect tipping data.

interactive.py (section 5.3.1, page 19). sa.examiners[0] is the first examiner created to handle one FITS file. sa.examiners[0].tctables are the handlers for the TIPPING CURVE extensions in the file. After the first few times, one would probably write a small function to do this.

Figure 3.1 shows the tipping curve data. The quality is good and so there is no need to extract a subset for fitting, which is shown in Snippet 3.7. The first row is the zero airmass

Snippet 3.7: Fitting TIPPING CURVE data to a straight line of system temperature *vs* airmass.

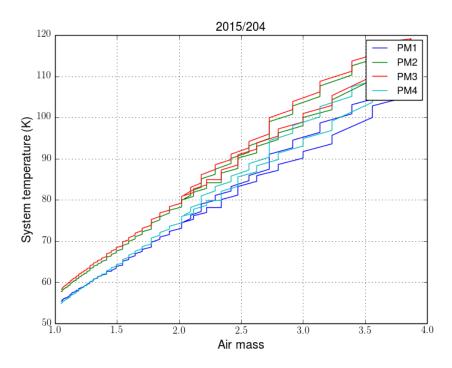


Figure 3.1: Data from the first tipping curve on 2015/204.

system temperature and the second is its standard deviation. The third row is the zenith optical depth and the fourth its standard deviation. Two empty Python dicts are for the physical temperature of the atmosphere along the line of sight if a quadratic fit is done. (Usually not a good idea with 22 GHz data.)

Plotting

As explained in the previous chapter, initializing a SessionAnalyzer class also creates a DSNFITSplotter object which adds plotting capability.

4.1 Class DSNFITSplotter

DSNFITSplotter is actually a subclass of (*i.e.* is derived from) DSNFITSexaminer, to which it adds plotting capability. The real work of data reduction is done by DSNFITSexaminer. DSNFITSplotter only creates a private class Plotter object for each SINGLE DISH extension in the file.

has one method:

plot_average() plots a DSN FITS spectrum averaged over the SINGLE DISH tables in the file. A DSN FITS spectrum is multi-dimensional with axes:: [[beam,] [time,]], pol, [dec, RA], frequency-like [] indicates the axes may not be present. During data manipulations the [ra, dec,] axes are the first to be eliminated.

Note that the frame of the provided spectrum is not changed. Only the X-axis is recomputed before plotting.

4.1.1 Class Plotter

The Plotter class has these methods:

figure_rows_and_columns() computes number of rows and columns for subplots.

init_multiplot() creates a figure with multiple plots sharing common X and Y axis. The sublots have no space between them.

init_multiplots() creates multiple figures with multiple plots. The subplots have no space
 between the axes in a figure. Use figure_rows_and_columns() to compute number of
 figures, rows, columns and figure size.

- show_passband() creates dynamic spectra of the IFs. If there are multiple beams, there will be a figure column for each beam and each pol. Else, if there is only one beam but multiple subchannels then there will be a figure column for each subchannel and each pol. Otherwise there is just a column for each pol.
- **show_all_spectra()** plots all the spectra in a table. In each subplot are all the spectra for each beam and polarization from one row in the SINGLE DISH table. If there are multiple records in a row (*i.e.* a TIME dimension in DATA), all records are plotted (not the average over records).
- make legend labels() is self-explanatory.
- plot_BPSW_spectra() plots reduced beam and position switched spectra.
- plot_PSSW_spectra() plots position switched spectra.
- plot_line() plots method reduced averaged spectral lines (from DSNFITSexaminer.Table
 method reduce_line()) for both pols.
- plot_all_Tsys() displays all TSYS values so user can select row range. (This works for WVSR data but needs work for SAO data.)
- plot_Tsys() plots average power versus time or airmass or list index.

Programs

5.1 Session Summaries

describe

5.2 Post-Processing

Almost all observing sessions record data to intermediate data files. These files are converted to standard astronomical formats during or after the observing session. The programs which perform these conversions are generally run automatically. Users can run them to regenerate the standard format files as long as the original files are on-line.

SA02SDFITS

describe

5.3 Data Analysis

5.3.1 interactive.py

This program is a convenience for initializing the common data reduction classes for analyzing the data from a session. Code Snippet 5.1 The SDFITSexaminer.Table and SDFITSplotter classes are decribed in section 3.2 (page 9).

```
kuiper@kuiper:...DSN-Sci-packages/Data_Reduction/FITS/apps/postproc$ ipython --pylab
In [2]: sa.examiners
Out[2]: {0: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSplotter.DSNFITSplotter at 0x7f3eb09ba0d0>}
In [3]: sa.examiners[0].tables
Out[3]:
{0: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSexaminer.Table at 0x7f3eb091bad0>,
1: <Data Reduction.FITS.SDFITSexaminer.Table at 0x7f3eb08e1590>,
2: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSexaminer.Table at 0x7f3eb08f7390>}
In [4]: sa.examiners[0].plotter
Out[4]:
{0: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSplotter.Plotter at 0x7f3ea643ebd0>,
1: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSplotter.Plotter at 0x7f3ea643eb90>,
2: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSplotter.Plotter at 0x7f3ea643e410>}
In [5]: ex.tctables
Out[5]:
{0: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSexaminer.TidTipAnalyzer instance at 0x7f3eb019bd40>,
1: <Data_Reduction.FITS.SDFITSexaminer.TidTipAnalyzer instance at 0x7f3eb019bbd8>}
```

Snippet 5.1: Initiating a data reduction session with interactive.py.

Monitor and Control System

6.1 Overview

The DSN Radio Astronomy monitor and control system is designed for conducting observations. However, sometimes knowlege of the classes defined within the M&C system and their attributes (i.e. variables) and methods (i.e. functions) is helpful for analyzing data. This chapter touches on the relevant features.

Appendix A

apt-get install mlocate
apt-get install git

Workstation Configuration

To be done as root. The secure way to do that is to be in the sudoers file with ALL privilege. Then do sudo su -. The reason for doing this instead of prefixing all the commands with sudo is that paths and permissions are different and some commands may croak at installing files in some places.

```
apt-get install apache2 php5 libapache2-mod-php5
apt-get install pyro
apt-get install python-setuptools
apt-get install python-pip
apt-get install python-epydoc
pip install dill
pip install pyephem
pip install openpyxl==1.5.8
The purposes of all these are:
mlocate to build and maintain a searchable database of files.
git for software management.
apache2 for web-based interfaces to the equipment servers.
pyro for inter-process communication in Python.
setuptools to facilitate packaging and installing Python projects.
pip to install and maintain packages in the Python Package Index.
epydoc for documenting Python source code.
dill, a superior version of pickle with less restrictions.
pyephem to provide a superclass for DSS in Configurations.
openpyxl to use Excel spreadsheets for configuration information and data.
```

When these packages are installed one can bring in the Python monitor and control software. All locally developed packages are in /usr/local/lib/python2.7/DSN-Sci-packages/. To put this directory in the Python path the file DSN-Sci-packages.pth is put into /usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages. It contains one line:

kuiper@kuiper:/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages\$ cat DSN-Sci-packages.pth
/usr/local/lib/python2.7/DSN-Sci-packages

The primary Git remote is at https://ra.jpl.nasa.gov/. This is a password-protected remote which can be used by our overseas partners who have access to the JPL domain but not github.jpl.nasa.gov because they are not "US persons".

Because Gitlab does not support gh-pages, a method for publishing web pages for a package, we also use, for now, github.jpl.nasa.gov to provide these pages.

In the examples below, note the directories in which the repos are cloned. This applies to all DSN Radio Astronomy hosts. The directory /usr/local must be recursively writable by group JPLusers. For setting up ssh tunnels and to provide a customized version of epidoc.

/usr/local/\$ git clone https://ra.jpl.nasa.gov/RadioAstronomy/scripts.git

Package support provides a variety of general purpose modules.

For date and time conversions, probably needed for writing data files,

The core of the monitor and control package is MonitorControl:

Most servers manage some kind of equipment for which there are packages in

As described in https://github.jpl.nasa.gov/pages/RadioAstronomy/Overview/, modules to support specific hardware are in sub-directories. Only those modules required for the hardware attached to the server need to be installed. For example, for Radipower power meters:

```
/usr/local/lib/python2.7/DSN-Sci-packages/Electronics/Instruments$ git clone \
https://ra.jpl.nasa.gov/kuiper/Electronics_Instruments_Radipower.git Radipower
```

Note the difference with respect to the earlier clones:

- The clone is done in a sub-directory of the top-level repo Electronics.
- It is cloned into a sub-directory named for the last part of the repo name.

The repo names reflects the directory structure Electronics/Instruments/Radipower as well as the Python module import path Electronics.Instruments.Radipower

The configuration information for the DSN Complex where the server is to be installed must also be cloned. For example

/usr/local/lib/python2.7/DSN-Sci-packages/MonitorControl/Configurations\$ git clone \ https://ra.jpl.nasa.gov/RadioAstronomy/MonitorControl_Configurations_CDSCC.git CDSCC

Appendix B

Un Soupçon de Python

The DSN Radio Astronomy Monitor and Control system uses the object-oriented features of Python. Arguably, object-oriented program can be said to be based on Plato's theory of forms. Python objects are analogous to real objects while classes correspond to forms or ideals, which are abstractions based on real objects.

B.1 iPython

One can simply type python at a shell prompt to get the standard Python command line interface. However, ipython is preferable because it has powerful extra features. One that is used most often is tab completion illustrated in Snippet B.1. This is very useful if you can't

```
In [12]: sa.<Tab>
sa.DOY
                           sa.get_good_weather_data sa.project
sa.DSS
                           sa.get_sources
                                                      sa.projectdatapath
sa.consolidate
                           sa.logger
                                                      sa.projworkpath
                           sa.open_datafiles
sa.datapath
                                                      sa.sources
sa.examiner_keys
                           sa.plot_elev_and_Tsys
                                                      sa.year
sa.examiners
                           sa.plot_weather
                           sa.plot_wind
sa.get_average
```

Snippet B.1: Use of <Tab> to see the names of an object's attributes and methods.

remember the name of an attribute or method.

B.2 Classes

A class is a natural way of describing a real-world object which has properties (attributes) and can do things (methods or functions). The most basic class in the M&C system is Device which has the attributes name, inputs and outputs, which are instance of Port classes, and data about the device, such as the location of a telescope or the bandwidth of a receiver. Most classes discused here are sub-classes of Device, which means that they "inherit" these attributes.

In the hope that it is more enlightening than confusing, Snippet B.2 (page 28) gives an example of a class definition. The __init__() method creates an instance of this class¹, which

Snippet B.2: Stripped-down definition of the Telescope class.

inherits attributes from the class Device. The second line creates the object and the rest of the code assigns values to its attributes.

¹Creating an object from a class is called *instantiation*, making an **instance** of a class.

Appendix C

Polarization

The DSN receivers are the older three-channel radio astronomy K-band receivers have native circular polarization. The default polarization of the new four-channel K-band receiver is linear. In order to average gain variations in the receiver channels over both measured polarizations, it is sometimes desirable to convert from one polarization mode to the other. This appendix gives the official definition of circular polarization and the technique for changing polarization mode.

C.1 IAU Definition of Circular Polarization

As reported in the Proceedings of the Fifteenth General Assembly [IAU(1974)], the following resolution was adopted by IAU Commissions 25 (Stellar Photometry and Polarimetry) and 40 (Radio Astronomy):

RESOLVED, that the frame of reference for the Stokes parameters is that of Right Ascension and Declination with the position angle of the electric-vector maximum, θ , starting from North and increasing through East. Elliptical polarization is defined in conformity with the definitions of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE Standard 211)[IEEE(1969)].

Left-Handed (Counterclockwise) Polarized Wave (LCP): An elliptically polarized electromagnetic wave in which the rotation of the electric field vector with time is counterclockwise for a stationary observer looking in the direction of the wave normal.

Right-Handed (Clockwise) Polarized Wave (RCP): An elliptically polarized electromagnetic wave in which the rotation of the electric field vector with time is clockwise for a stationary observer looking in the direction of the wave normal.

This means that the polarization of incoming radiation for which the position angle of the electric vector measured at a fixed point in space increases with time is described as right-handed and positive. This can be seen in the lower panel of Figure C.1¹

¹To view these images relax the eye muscles as if looking at a distant object. A person not experienced in this

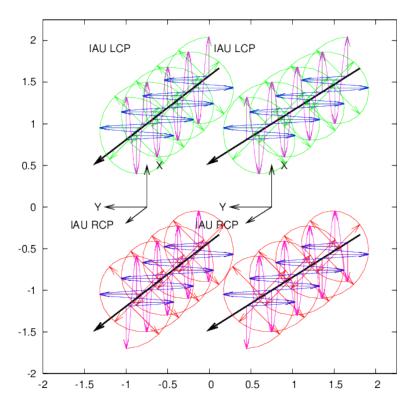


Figure C.1: A right circularly polarized wave (LCP - green) and left circularly polarized wave (RCP - red) as defined by the IAU are shown decomposed into two orthogonal linearly polarized waves (X - magenta, Y - blue). The thick arrows show the direction of propagation.

C.2 Changing Between Linear and Circular Polarization

Figure C.1 shows that linear polarization can be converted to circular polarization. If the vertical (H-plane or Y-axis) wave lags behind the horizontal (E-plane or X-axis) wave by 90° of phase delay the resulting polarization will be RCP. If the vertical (H-plane or Y-axis) wave leads the horizontal (E-plane or X-axis) wave by 90° of phase delay the resulting polarization will be LCP.

Optically, this can be accomplished by passing the beam through a particular thickness of material which has different indices of refraction for two orthogonally polarized components.

type of viewing might first look at a distant object and then slide the gaze down to the figure without refocusing. Another method is to place a sheet of cardboard with one edge down the middle of the figure and the other edge between the eyes. It is probably easier to focus first on a label above or below the spiral, and then slide the gaze downwards.

Similarly, a waveguide section can be produced to perform the same function.

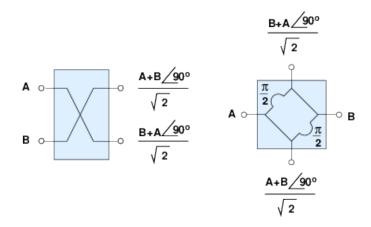


Figure C.2: A quadrature hybrid combines two input signals so that one is delayed 90° with respect to the other. There are two outputs which are symmetrically delayed. The figure on the left shows a conventional schematic. The one on the right is a more illustrative schematic.

In the cm, mm, and submm wave domains, there exist devices which can separate a radio wave into two orthogonally polarized components. A quadrature hybrid can convert between the two modes, as shown in Figure C.2. If port A were receiving vertical polarization (H-plane or Y-axis) and B horizontal polarization (E-plane or X-axis) then at the port labelled $A+\angle 90^{\circ}B$, the vertical polarization lags behind the horizontal and it would put out RCP. The port labelled $B+\angle 90^{\circ}A$ would put out LCP.

From this one can see that, if there is an option to bypass the hybrid, it depends which way the hybrid is put in the circuit which determines whether the output ports are E/L and H/R or are E/R and H/L.

Appendix D

Sideband Separation

If the LO is in the middle of the RF band, then the mixing products will have both positive frequencies from the upper sideband and negative frequencies from the lower sideband. Both are present in the IF. A complex mixer puts out two IFs which are separated 90° in phase. These two IFs can be considered the real and imaginary parts of a complex signal. The upper and lower sidebands can be recovered from a complex signal.

The outputs from a complex mixer can be phased together to separate the upper and lower sidebands. This is done with a 90° hybrid, shown in Figure C.2, which re-combines the two quadrature phase mixing products. To see this, consider the outputs of the two mixers to be the sum of the USB and the LSB part of the down-converted spectrum with the frequencies explicitly positive and negative, *i.e.*,

$$V_R = \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}}\cos(\omega_U t + \Delta\phi_U) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}}\cos(-\omega_L t + \Delta\phi_L), \tag{D.1}$$

$$= \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}}\cos(\omega_U t + \Delta\phi_U) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}}\cos(\omega_L t - \Delta\phi_L), \tag{D.2}$$

$$V_{I} = \frac{V_{U}}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_{U}t + \Delta\phi_{U}) + \frac{V_{L}}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(-\omega_{L}t + \Delta\phi_{L}), \tag{D.3}$$

$$= \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_U t + \Delta\phi_U) - \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_L t - \Delta\phi_L)$$
 (D.4)

where U refers to the upper sideband and L the lower sideband. Then if these signals are combined in a quadrature hybrid, the effect along the paths with the $\pi/2$ delay is that the delayed signal at the summation point is that which entered the delay section $t - \pi/2\omega$ earlier. This means that we subtract $\pi/2$ from the angular terms in Equations D.1 and D.3 as illustrated in Figure D.1.

Subtracting $\pi/2$ from the angular terms is equivalent to subtracting $\pi/2$ from the phases associated with the positive frequency terms and adding $\pi/2$ to the phases associated with the

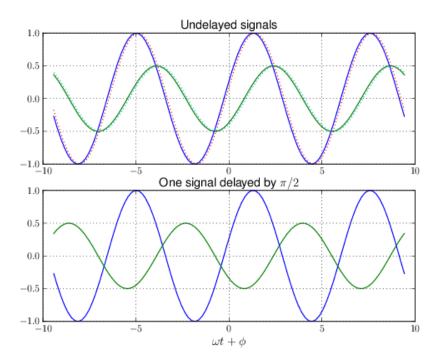


Figure D.1: The angular term for the green line in the lower panel is $\pi/2$ smaller than in the upper panel, showing that the effect is to delay the signal. (The dotted lines show a slighly earlier time for a positive frequency signal; so the signal moves left with time.)

negative frequency terms in Equations D.2 and D.4. The outputs from the hybrid will then be

$$\frac{V_R}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{V_I \angle 90^{\circ}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_U t + \phi_U) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_L t - \phi_L)
+ \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}} \sin(\omega_U t + \phi_U - \frac{\pi}{2}) - \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}} \sin(\omega_L t - \phi_L - \frac{\pi}{2})
= \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_U t + \phi_U) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_L t - \phi_L)
- \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_U t + \phi_U) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_L t - \phi_L)
= \sqrt{2} V_L \cos(\omega_L t + \phi_L)
= \frac{V_L \angle 90^{\circ}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{V_I}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_U t + \phi_U - \frac{\pi}{2}) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_L t - \phi_L - \frac{\pi}{2})$$
(D.5)

$$+\frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_U t + \phi_U) - \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_L t - \phi_L)$$

$$= \frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_U t + \phi_U) + \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_U t - \phi_L)$$

$$+\frac{V_U}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_U t + \phi_U) - \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\omega_U t - \phi_L)$$

$$= \sqrt{2}V_U\sin(\omega_U t + \phi_U)$$
(D.6)

Note that adding $\pi/2$ to the image band terms in Equations D.1 and D.3 is like subtracting $\pi/2$ from the image band terms in Equations D.2 and D.4, *i.e.* the sign of the $\pi/2$ added is the same as the sign of the frequency.

The time-averaged power in each band is

$$P_{USB} = V_{USB}^{2}$$

$$= 2V_{U}^{2} \left\langle \cos^{2}(\omega_{IF}t + \phi_{U}) \right\rangle$$

$$= V_{U}^{2} \qquad (D.7)$$

$$P_{LSB} = V_{L}^{2} \qquad (D.8)$$

Equations D.7 and D.8, when added together, give the power in both sidebands.

Bibliography

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