# Gammapy: A Python package for gamma-ray astronomy

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Context. Traditionally, TeV- $\gamma$ -ray astronomy has been conducted by experiments employing proprietary data and analysis software. However, the next generation of  $\gamma$ -ray instruments, such as the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory (CTAO), will be operated as open observatories. Alongside the data, they will also make associated software tools available to a wider community. This necessity prompted the development of open, high-level astronomy software customised for high-energy astrophysics.

Aims. In this article, we present Gammapy, an open-source Python package for the analysis of astronomical  $\gamma$ -ray data, and illustrate the functionalities of its first long-term-support release, version 1.0. Built on the modern Python scientific ecosystem, Gammapy provides a uniform platform for reducing and modelling data from different  $\gamma$ -ray instruments for many analysis scenarios. Gammapy complies with several well-established data conventions in high-energy astrophysics, providing serialised data products that are interoperable with other software packages.

Methods. Starting from event lists and instrument response functions, Gammapy provides the functionalities for reducing data binned in energy and sky coordinates. Several techniques for background estimation are implemented in the package to handle the residual hadronic background. After the data are binned, the flux and morphology of one or more  $\gamma$ -ray sources can be estimated using Poisson maximum likelihood fitting and assuming a variety of spectral, temporal, and spatial models. Estimation of flux points, likelihood profiles and light curves is also supported.

Results. After describing the structure of the package, we show the capabilities of Gammapy in multiple traditional and novel  $\gamma$ -ray analysis scenarios using public data, such as spectral and spectro-morphological modelling and estimations of a spectral energy distribution and a light curve. Its flexibility and its power are displayed in a final multi-instrument example, where datasets from different instruments, at different stages of data reduction, are simultaneously fitted with an astrophysical flux model.

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

### 1. Introduction

- 2 The  $\gamma$ -ray range of the electromagnetic spectrum provides
- 3 us insights into the most energetic processes in the uni-
- 4 verse such as those accelerating particles in the surround-
- 5 ings of black holes, and remnants of supernova explosions.
- 6 As in other branches of astronomy,  $\gamma$  rays can be observed
- 7 by satellite as well as ground-based instruments. Ground-
- 8 based instruments use the Earth's atmosphere as a particle
- 9 detector. Very-high-energy (VHE) cosmic  $\gamma$  rays interact
- 10 in the atmosphere and create large showers of secondary
- 11 particles that can be observed from the ground. Ground-
- based  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy relies on these extensive air showers
- 13 to detect the primary  $\gamma$ -ray photons and infer their incident
- 14 direction and energy. VHE  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy covers the en-

ergy range from few tens of GeV up to the PeV. There are two main categories of ground-based instruments:

Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes (IACTs) obtain images of the atmospheric showers by detecting the Cherenkov radiation emitted by charged particles in the cascade and use these images to reconstruct the properties of the incident particle. Those instruments have a limited field of view (FoV) and duty cycle, but good energy and angular resolution.

Water Cherenkov Detectors (WCDs) detect particles directly from the tail of the shower when it reaches the ground. These instruments have a very large FoV, and large duty-cycle, but a higher energy threshold and lower signal-to-noise ratios compared to IACTs (de Naurois & Mazin 2015).

Ground-based  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy has been historically conducted through experiments operated by independent

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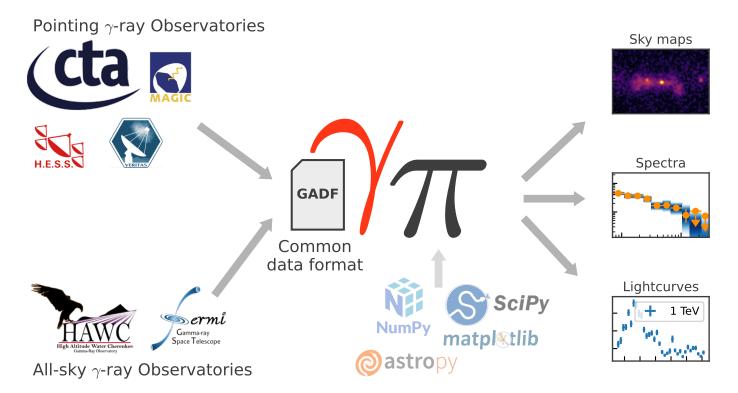


Fig. 1. Core idea and relation of Gammapy to different  $\gamma$ -ray instruments and the gamma astro data format (GADF). The top left shows the group of current and future pointing instruments based on the imaging atmospheric Cherenkov technique (IACT). This includes instruments such as the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory (CTAO), the High Energy Stereoscopic System (H.E.S.S.), the Major Atmospheric Gamma Imaging Cherenkov Telescopes (MAGIC), and the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS). The lower left shows the group of all-sky instruments such as the Fermi Large Area Telescope (Fermi-LAT) and the High Altitude Water Cherenkov Observatory (HAWC). The calibrated data of all those instruments can be converted and stored into the common GADF data format. Gammapy can read data stored in the GADF format. The Gammapy package is a community-developed project that provides a common interface to the data and analysis of all these  $\gamma$ -ray instruments. This way users can also easily combine data from different instruments and perform a joint analysis. Gammapy is built on the scientific Python ecosystem, and the required dependencies are shown below the Gammapy logo.

collaborations, each relying on their own proprietary data and analysis software developed as part of the instrument. While this model has been successful so far, it does not permit easy combination of data from several instruments and therefore limits the interoperability of existing facilities. This lack of interoperability currently limits the full exploitation of the available  $\gamma$ -ray data, especially because the different instruments often have complementary sky coverages, and the various detection techniques have complementary properties in terms of energy range covered, duty cycle and spatial resolution.

The Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory (CTAO) will be the first ground-based  $\gamma$ -ray instrument to be operated as an open observatory. Its high-level data<sup>1</sup> will be shared publicly after some proprietary period, and the software required to analyze it will be distributed as well. To allow the re-usability of data from existing instruments and their interoperability, it is required to use open data formats and open tools that can support the various analysis methods commonly used in the field.

In practice, the data reduction workflow of all  $\gamma$ -ray observatories is remarkably similar. After data calibration,

shower events are reconstructed and gamma/hadron separation is applied to build lists of  $\gamma$ -ray-like events. The lists of  $\gamma$ -ray events are then used to derive scientific results, such as spectra, sky maps or light curves, taking into account the observation specific instrument response functions (IRFs). Once the data is reduced to a list of events with reconstructed physical properties of the primary particle, the information is independent of the data-reduction process, and, eventually, of the detection technique. This implies, for example, that high-level data from IACTs and WCDs can be represented with the same data model. The efforts to create a common format usable by various instruments converged in the so-called Data Formats for  $\gamma$ -ray Astronomy initiative (Deil et al. 2017; Nigro et al. 2021), abbreviated to gamma-astro-data-formats (GADF). This proposes prototypical specifications to produce files based on the flexible image transport system (FITS) format (Pence et al. 2010) encapsulating this high-level information. This is realized by storing a list of  $\gamma$ -ray-like events with their reconstructed and observed quantities such as energy, incident direction and arrival time and a parametrisation of the IRFs associated with the event list data.

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In the past decade observing the  $\gamma$ -ray sky has transitioned from a niche in the field of particle physics to an established branch of astronomy, completing the view of the sky in high energies. At the same time Python has become

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 $<sup>^{1}\,</sup>$  The lowest reduction level of data published by CTAO will be reconstructed event lists and corresponding instrument response functions.

extremely popular as a scientific programming language, in particular in the field of data sciences. This success is mostly attributed to the simple and easy to learn syntax. the ability to act as a "glue" language between different programming languages and last but not least the rich ecosystem of packages and its open and supportive community (Momcheva & Tollerud 2015).

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In the sub-field of astronomy, the Astropy project (Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013) was created in 2012 to build a community-developed core Python package for astronomy. It offers basic functionalities that astronomers of many fields need, such as representing and transforming astronomical coordinates, manipulating physical quantities including units as well as reading and writing FITS files.

The Gammapy project was started following the model of Astropy, with the objective of building a common software library for very high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray data analysis (Donath et al. 2015). The core of the idea is illustrated in Figure 1. The various  $\gamma$ -ray instruments can export their data to a common data format (GADF) and then these data can be combined and analysed using a common software library. The Gammapy package is an independent community-developed software project, it has been selected to be the core library for the Science Analysis tools of CTAO but also involves contributors associated to other instruments. The Gammapy package is built on the scientific Python ecosystem: it uses Numpy (Harris et al. 2020) for n-dimensional data structures, Scipy (Virtanen et al. 2020) for numerical algorithms, Astropy (Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013) for astronomy-specific functionality, iminuit (Dembinski & et al. 2020) for numerical minimisation and Matplotlib (Hunter 2007) for visualization.

With the public availability of the GADF format specifications and the Gammapy package, some experiments started to make limited subsets of their  $\gamma$ -ray data publicly available for testing and validating Gammapy. For example, the H.E.S.S. collaboration released a limited test dataset (about 50 hours of observations taken between 2004 and 2008) based on the GADF DL3 format (H.E.S.S. Collaboration 2018a). This data release served as a basis for validation of open analysis tools, including Gammapy (see e.g. Mohrmann et al. 2019). The HAWC collaboration also released a limited test dataset of the Crab Nebula, which was used to validate the Gammapy package in Albert, A. et al. (2022). The increased availability of public data that followed the definition of a common data format, and the development of Gammapy as a community-driven open software, led the way toward a more open science in the very-high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray Astronomy domain. In future CTAO will be an open observatory committed to follow the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) principles (Wilkinson et al. 2016; Barker et al. 2022) that define the key requirements for open science.

In this article, we describe the general structure of the Gammapy package, its main concepts and organisational structure. We start in Section 2 with a general overview of the data analysis workflow in very high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy. Then we show how this workflow is reflected in the structure of the Gammapy package in Section 3, while also describing the various subpackages it contains. Section 4 presents a number of applications, while Section 5 finally discusses the project organization.

### 2. Gamma-ray Data Analysis

The data analysis process in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy is usually split 143 into two parts. The first one deals with the data processing from detector measurement, calibration, event recon- 145 struction and selection to yield a list of reconstructed  $\gamma$ -ray 146 event candidates. This part of the data reduction sequence, 147 sometimes referred to as low-level analysis, is usually very specific to a given observation technique and even to a given instrument.

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The other sequence, referred to as high-level analysis, deals with the extraction of physical quantities related to  $\gamma$ ray sources and the production of high-level products such as spectra, light curves and catalogs. The methods applied here are more generic and are broadly shared across the 155 field. The similarity in the high-level analysis would also 156 allow for combining data from multiple instruments.

To extract physically relevant information, such as the flux, spatial or spectral shape of one or more sources, an analytical model is commonly adopted to describe the intensity of the radiation from gamma-ray sources as a function of the energy,  $E_{\text{true}}$ , and of the position in the FoV,

$$\Phi(p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}}; \hat{\theta}), [\Phi] = \text{TeV}^{-1} \,\text{cm}^{-2} \,\text{s}^{-1}$$
 (1)

where  $\hat{\theta}$  is a set of model parameters that can be adjusted 158 in a fit. To convert this analytical flux model into a prediction on the number of gamma-ray events detected by an instrument,  $N_{\text{pred}}$ , with their estimated energy E and position p, the model is convolved with the response function 162 of the instrument.

In the most general way, we can write the expected number of detected events from the sky model  $\Phi$  at measured position p and energy E, for a given set of parameters  $\hat{\theta}$ ,

$$N(p, E, \hat{\theta}) dp dE = t_{\text{obs}} \int_{E_{\text{true}}} \int_{p_{\text{true}}} R(p, E | p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$$

$$\cdot \Phi(p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}}, \hat{\theta}) dE_{\text{true}} dp_{\text{true}}$$
(2)

where  $R(p, E|p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$  is the instrument response 164 and  $t_{\rm obs}$  is the observation duration.

A common assumption is that the instrument response 166 can be simplified as the product of three independent func-

$$R(p, E|p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}}) = A_{\text{eff}}(p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$$

$$\cdot PSF(p|p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$$

$$\cdot E_{\text{disp}}(E|p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$$
(3)

where: 169

- $A_{\rm eff}(p_{\rm true},E_{\rm true})$  is the effective collection area of the 170 detector. It is the product of the detector collection area 171 times its detection efficiency at true energy  $E_{\rm true}$  and 172 position  $p_{\text{true}}$ . 173
- $-PSF(p|p_{\rm true}, E_{\rm true})$  is the point spread function (PSF). 174 It gives the probability of measuring a direction p 175 when the true direction is  $p_{\rm true}$  and the true energy is 176  $E_{\text{true}}$ .  $\gamma$ -ray instruments consider  $PSF(\delta p|p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$ , 177 the probability density of the angular separation be- 178 tween true and reconstructed directions,  $\delta p = p_{\rm true} - p$ . 179

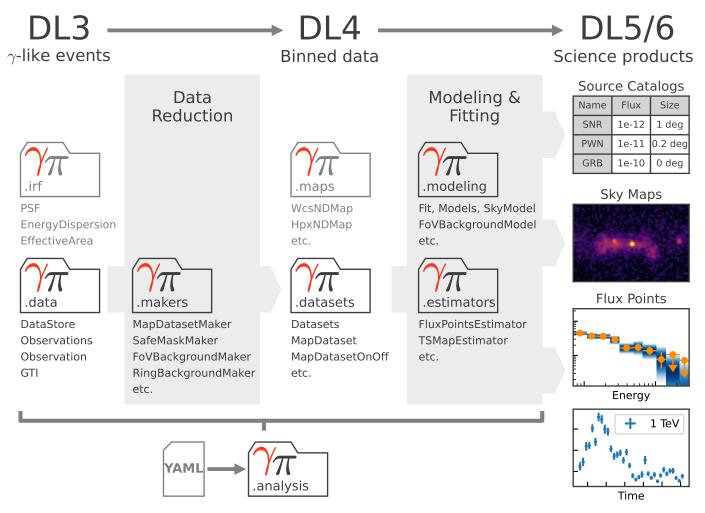


Fig. 2. Gammapy sub-package structure and data analysis workflow. The top row defines the different levels of data reduction, from lists of  $\gamma$ -ray-like events on the left (DL3), to high-level scientific products (DL5) on the right. The direction of the data flow is illustrated with the gray arrows. The gray folder icons represent the different sub-packages in Gammapy and names given as the corresponding Python code suffix, e.g. gammapy.data. Below each icon there is a list of the most important objects defined in the sub-package. The light grey folder icons show the subpackages for the most fundamental data structures such as maps and IRFs. The bottom of the figure shows the high-level analysis sub-module with its dependey on the YAML file format.

 $-E_{\rm disp}(E|p_{\rm true},E_{\rm true})$  is the energy dispersion. It gives the probability to reconstruct the photon at energy E when the true energy is  $E_{\rm true}$  and the true position  $p_{\rm true}$ .  $\gamma$ -ray instruments consider  $E_{\text{disp}}(\mu|p_{\text{true}}, E_{\text{true}})$ , the probability density of the event migration,  $\mu = \frac{E}{E_{\text{true}}}$ .

In total, the expected number of events in a  $\gamma$ -ray observation is given by:

$$N(p, E; \hat{\theta}) dp dE = E_{\text{disp}} \circledast \left[ PSF \circledast \left( A_{\text{eff}} \cdot t_{\text{obs}} \cdot \Phi(\hat{\theta}) \right) \right] + Bkg(p, E) \cdot t_{\text{obs}}$$

$$(4)$$

 $\gamma$ -ray data at the Data Level 3 (DL3) therefore consist of lists of  $\gamma$ -ray-like events and their corresponding instrument response functions. The latter include the effective area  $(A_{\text{eff}})$ , PSF and energy dispersion  $(E_{\text{disp}})$ . In general, IRFs depend on the geometrical parameters of the detector, e.g. location of an event in the FoV or the elevation angle of the incoming direction of the event. Consequently IRFs might be parametrised as functions of detector specific coordinates too.

Finally, predicted and observed events,  $N_{obs}$ , can be 199 combined in a likelihood function,  $\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}, N_{obs})$ , usually Pois- 200 sonian, that is maximised to obtain the best-fit parameters 201 of the flux model,  $\hat{\theta}$ .

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An additional component of DL3 IRFs is the residual hadronic background model Bkg. It represents the intensity of charged particles misidentified as  $\gamma$  rays that are expected during an observation. It is defined as a function of the measured position in the FoV and measured energy.

## 2.1. Gammapy data analysis workflow

The first step in  $\gamma$ -ray data analysis is the selection and 204 extraction of observations based on their metadata including information such as pointing direction, observation time and observation conditions. The access to the events data and instrument reponse per observation is supported by classes and methods in the gammapy.data (see Section 3.2) and the gammapy.irf (see Section 3.3) subpackages.

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The next step of the analysis is the data reduction, where all observation events and instrument responses are filled into or projected onto a common physical coordinate system, defined by a map geometry. The definition of the map geometry typically consists of a spectral dimension defined by a binned energy axis and of spatial dimensions, which either define a spherical projection from celestial coordinates to a pixelised image space or a single region on the sky. The gammapy.maps subpackage provides general multidimensional geometry objects and the associated data structures (see Section 3.4).

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After all data have been projected into the same geometry, it is typically required to improve the residual hadronic background estimate. As residual hadronic background models can be subject to significant systematic uncertainties, these models can be improved by taking into account actual data from regions without known  $\gamma$ -ray sources. This includes methods such as the ring or the FoV background techniques or background measurements performed within, e.g. reflected regions (Berge et al. 2007). Data measured at the FoV or energy boundaries of the instrument are typically associated with a systematic uncertainty in the IRF. For this reason this part of the data is often excluded from subsequent analysis by defining regions of "safe" data in the spatial as well as energy dimension. All of these data reduction steps are performed by classes and functions implemented in the gammapy.makers subpackage (see Section 3.6).

The counts data and the reduced IRFs in the form of maps are bundled into datasets that represent the fourth data level (DL4). These reduced datasets can be written to disk, in a format specific to Gammapy to allow users to read them back at any time later for modelling and fitting. Different variations of such datasets support different analysis methods and fit statistics. The datasets can be used to perform a joint-likelihood fit, allowing one to combine different measurements, e.g. from different observations but also from different instruments or event classes. They can also be used for binned simulation as well as event sampling to simulate DL3 events data. The various DL4 objects and the associated functionalities are implemented in the gammapy.datasets subpackage (see Section 3.5).

The next step is then typically to model and fit the datasets, either individually, or in a joint likelihood analysis. For this purpose Gammapy provides a uniform interface to multiple fitting backends. In addition to providing a variety of built-in models, including spectral, spatial and temporal model classes to describe the  $\gamma$ -ray emission in the sky, custom user-defined models are also supported. Spectral models can be simple analytical models or more complex ones from radiation mechanisms of accelerated particle populations (e.g. inverse Compton or  $\pi^0$  decay). Independently or subsequently to the global modelling, the data can be re-grouped to compute flux points, light curves and flux maps as well as significance maps in different energy bands. The modelling and fitting functionalities are implemented in the gammapy.modeling, gammapy.estimators and gammapy.stats subpackages (see respectively Section 3.8, 3.9 and 3.7).

### 3. Gammapy Package

#### 3.1. Overview

The Gammapy package is structured into multiple subpackages. The definition of the content of the different subpackages follows mostly the stages of the data reduction 274 workflow described in the previous section. Sub-packages either contain structures representing data at different reduction levels or algorithms to transition between these different levels.

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Figure 2 shows an overview of the different sub-packages and their relation to each other. The gammapy.data and gammapy.irf sub-packages define data objects to represent DL3 data, such as event lists and IRFs as well as functionality to read the DL3 data from disk into memory. The gammapy.makers sub-package contains the functionality to reduce the DL3 data to binned maps. Binned maps and datasets, which represent a collection of binned maps, are defined in the gammapy.maps and gammapy.datasets subpackages, respectively. Parametric models, which are defined in gammapy.modeling, are used to jointly model a combination of datasets, for example, to compute a spectrum using data from several facilities. Estimator classes, which are contained in gammapy.estimators, are used to 292 compute higher level science products such as flux and signficance maps, light curves or flux points. Finally there is a gammapy.analysis sub-package which provides a highlevel interface for executing analyses defined from configuration files. In the following sections, we will introduce all 297 sub-packages and their functionalities in more detail.

### 3.2. gammapy.data

The gammapy.data sub-package implements the function- 300 ality to select, read, and represent DL3  $\gamma$ -ray data in memory. It provides the main user interface to access the lowest data level. Gammapy currently only supports data that 303 is compliant with v0.2 and v0.3 of the GADF data format. DL3 data are typically bundled into individual observations, corresponding to stable periods of data acquisition. For IACT data analysis, for which the GADF data model and Gammapy were initially conceived, these are usually  $20 - 30 \,\mathrm{min}$  long. Each observation is assigned a unique integer ID for reference.

A typical usage example is shown in Figure 3. First a DataStore object is created from the path of the data directory. The directory contains an observation as well as a FITS HDU  $^2$  index file which assigns the correct data and IRF FITS files and HDUs to the given observation ID. 315 The DataStore object gathers a collection of observations 316 and provides ancillary files containing information about the telescope observation mode and the content of the data unit of each file. The DataStore allows for selecting a list of observations based on specific filters.

The DL3 level data represented by the Observation 321 class consist of two types of elements: first, a list of  $\gamma$ -ray events with relevant physical quantities such as estimated 323 energy, direction and arrival times, which is represented 324 by the EventList class. Second, a set of associated IRFs, providing the response of the system, typically factorised in independent components as described in Section 3.3. The separate handling of event lists and IRFs addition-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Header Data Unit

```
from gammapy.data import DataStore
data_store = DataStore.from_dir(
    base_dir="$GAMMAPY_DATA/hess-dl3-dr1"
obs_ids = [23523, 23526, 23559, 23592]
observations = data_store.get_observations(
    obs_id=obs_ids, skip_missing=True
for obs in observations:
    print(f"Observation id: {obs.obs_id}")
    print(f"N events: {len(obs.events.table)}")
    print(f"Max. area: {obs.aeff.quantity.max()}")
```

Fig. 3. Using gammapy.data to access DL3 level data with a DataStore object. Individual observations can be accessed by their unique integer observation id number. The actual events and instrument response functions can be accessed as attributes on the Observation object, such as .events or .aeff for the effective area information. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.1.

ally allows for data from non-IACT  $\gamma$ -ray instruments to 329 330 be read. For example, to read Fermi-LAT data, the user can read separately their event list (already compliant with 331 332 the GADF specifications) and then find the appropriate IRF classes representing the response functions provided 333 by Fermi-LAT, see example in Section 4.4. 334

#### 335 3.3. gammapy.irf

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The gammapy.irf sub-package contains all classes and functionalities to handle IRFs in a variety of formats. Usu-337 338 ally, IRFs store instrument properties in the form of multidimensional tables, with quantities expressed in terms of 339 energy (true or reconstructed), off-axis angles or cartesian 340 detector coordinates. The main quantities stored in the 341 342 common  $\gamma$ -ray IRFs are the effective area, energy dispersion, PSF and background rate. The gammapy.irf sub-343 package can open and access specific IRF extensions, in-344 terpolate and evaluate the quantities of interest on both 345 energy and spatial axes, convert their format or units, plot 346 or write them into output files. In the following, we list the 347 main classes of the sub-package: 348

#### 3.3.1. Effective Area 349

Gammapy provides the class EffectiveAreaTable2D to 350 manage the effective area, which is usually defined in terms 351 of true energy and offset angle. The class functionalities of-352 fer the possibility to read from files or to create it from 353 scratch. The EffectiveAreaTable2D class can also con-354 355 vert, interpolate, write, and evaluate the effective area for a given energy and offset angle, or even plot the multi-356 dimensional effective area table. 357

#### 358 3.3.2. Point Spread Function

Gammapy allows users to treat different kinds of PSFs, 359 particular, parametric multi-dimensional 360 sian distributions (EnergyDependentMultiGaussPSF) 361

(PSFKing). King profile functions The 362 EnergyDependentMultiGaussPSF class is able to handle up to three Gaussians, defined in terms of amplitudes and sigma given for each true energy and offset angle bin. Similarly, PSFKing takes into account the gamma and sigma parameters. The general ParametricPSF class allows users to create a custom PSF with a parametric representation different from Gaussian(s) or King profile(s). The generic PSF3D class stores a radial symmetric profile of a PSF to represent non-parametric shapes, again depending 371 on true energy and offset from the pointing position.

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To handle the change of the PSF with the observational 373 offset during the analysis the PSFMap class is used. It stores the radial profile of the PSF depending on the true energy and position on the sky. During the modelling step in the analysis, the PSF profile for each model component 377 is looked up at its current position and converted into a 378 3d convolution kernel which is used for the prediction of 379 counts from that model component.

## 3.3.3. Energy Dispersion

For IACTs, the energy resolution and bias, sometimes called 382 energy dispersion, is typically parametrised in terms of the so-called migration parameter  $(\mu)$ , which is defined as the ratio between the reconstructed energy and the true energy. By definition, the mean of this ratio is close to unity for a small energy bias and its distribution can be typically described by a Gaussian profile. However, more complex shapes are also common. The migration parameter is given at each offset angle and reconstructed energy. The 390 main sub-classes are the EnergyDispersion2D which is designed to handle the raw instrument description, and the 392 EDispKernelMap, which contains an energy disperion matrix per sky position. I.e., a 4-dimensional sky map where 394 each position is associated to an energy dispersion matrix. 395 The energy dispersion matrix is a representation of the energy resolution as a function of the true energy only and 397 implemented in Gammapy by the sub-class EDispKernel.

### 3.3.4. Instrumental Background

The instrumental background rate can be represented as ei- 400 ther a 2-dimensional data structure named Background2D or a 3-dimensional one named Background3D. The background rate is stored as a differential count rate, nor- 403 malised per solid angle and energy interval at different re- 404 constructed energies and offset angles. In the Background2D 405 case, the background is expected to follow a radially symmetric shape and changes only with the offset angle from 407 FoV center. In the Background3D case, the background is 408 allowed to vary with longitude and latitude of a tangential 409 FoV coordinates system.

Some example IRFs read from public data files and plot- 411 ted with Gammapy are shown in Figure 4.

### 3.4. gammapy.maps

The gammapy.maps sub-package provides classes that rep- 414 resent data structures associated with a set of coordinates 415 or a region on a sphere. In addition it allows to handle an 416 arbitrary number of non-spatial data dimensions, such as 417 time or energy. It is organized around three types of struc- 418

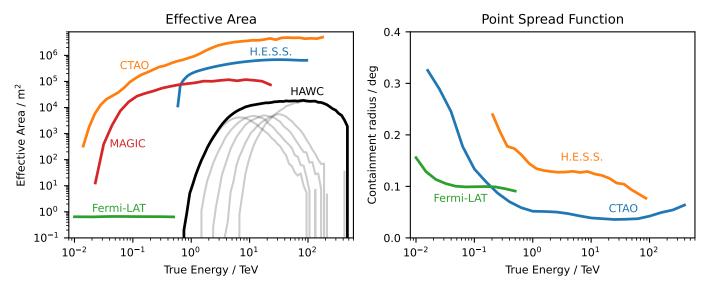


Fig. 4. Using gammapy.irf to read and plot instrument response functions. The left panel shows the effective area as a function of energy for the CTA, H.E.S.S., MAGIC, HAWC and Fermi-LAT instruments. The right panel shows the 68% containment radius of the PSF as a function of energy for the CTA, H.E.S.S. and Fermi-LAT instruments. The CTA IRFs are from the prod5 production. The H.E.S.S. IRFs are from the DL3 DR1, using observation ID 033787. The MAGIC effective area is computed for a 20 min observation at the Crab Nebula coordinates. The Fermi-LAT IRFs use pass8 data and are also taken at the position of the Crab Nebula. The HAWC effective area is shown for the event classes  $N_{Hit} = 5 - 9$  as light gray lines along with the sum of all event classes as a black line. The HAWC IRFs are taken from the first public release of events data by the HAWC collaboration. All IRFs do not correspond to the latest performance of the instruments, but still are representative of the detector type and energy range. We exclusively relied on publicly available data provided by the collaborations. The data is also available in the gammapy-data repository.

tures: geometries, sky maps and map axes, which inherit from the base classes Geom, Map and MapAxis respectively.

The geometry object defines the pixelization scheme and map boundaries. It also provides methods to transform between sky and pixel coordinates. Maps consist of a geometry instance defining the coordinate system together with a Numpy array containing the associated data. All map classes support a basic set of arithmetic and boolean operations with unit support, up and downsampling along extra axes, interpolation, resampling of extra axes, interactive visualisation in notebooks and interpolation onto different geometries.

The MapAxis class provides a uniform application programming interface (API) for axes representing bins on any physical quantity, such as energy or angular offset. Map axes can have physical units attached to them, as well as define non-linearly spaced bins. The special case of time is covered by the dedicated TimeMapAxis, which allows time bins to be non-contiguous, as it is often the case with observational times. The generic class LabelMapAxis allows the creation of axes for non-numeric entries.

To handle the spatial dimension the sub-package exposes a uniform API for the FITS World Coordinate System (WCS), the HEALPix pixelization and region-based data structure (see Figure 5). This allows users to perform the same higher level operations on maps independent of the underlying pixelisation scheme. The gammapy.maps package is also used by external packages such as FermiPy (Wood et al. 2017)

### 3.4.1. WCS Maps

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The FITS WCS pixelization supports a number of different projections to represent celestial spherical coordinates in a regular rectangular grid. Gammapy provides full sup- 451 port to data structures using this pixelization scheme. For details see Calabretta & Greisen (2002). This pixelisation is typically used for smaller regions of interests, such as 454 pointed observations and is represented by a combination 455 of the WcsGeom and WcsNDMap class.

#### 3.4.2. HEALPix Maps

This pixelization scheme (Calabretta & Greisen 2002) pro- 458 vides a subdivision of a sphere in which each pixel covers the same surface area as every other pixel. As a consequence, however, pixel shapes are no longer rectangular, or regular. This pixelisation is typically used for all-sky data, such as data from the HAWC or Fermi-LAT observatory. Gammapy natively supports the multiscale definition of the HEALPix pixelisation and thus allows for easy upsampling and downsampling of the data. In addition to the all-sky map, Gammapy also supports a local HEALPix pixelisation 467 where the size of the map is constrained to a given radius. 468 For local neighbourhood operations, such as convolution, 469 Gammapy relies on projecting the HEALPix data to a lo- 470 cal tangential WCS grid. This data structure is represented 471 by the HpxGeom and HpxNDMap classes.

#### 3.4.3. Region Maps

In this case, instead of a fine spatial grid dividing a rect- 474 angular sky region, the spatial dimension is reduced to a 475 single bin with an arbitrary shape, describing a region in 476 the sky with that same shape. Region maps are typically 477 used together with a non-spatial dimension, for example 478 an energy axis, to represent how a quantity varies in that 479 dimension inside the corresponding region. To avoid the 480

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```
from gammapy.maps import Map, MapAxis
from astropy.coordinates import SkyCoord
from astropy import units as u
skydir = SkyCoord("0d", "5d", frame="galactic")
energy_axis = MapAxis.from_energy_bounds(
    energy_min="1 TeV", energy_max="10 TeV", nbin=10
# Create a WCS Map
m_wcs = Map.create(
    binsz=0.1,
    map_type="wcs",
    skydir=skydir,
    width=[10.0, 8.0] * u.deg,
    axes=[energy_axis])
# Create a HEALPix Map
m_hpx = Map.create(
    binsz=0.1,
    map_type="hpx",
    skydir=skydir,
    axes=[energy_axis]
)
# Create a region map
region = "galactic; circle(0, 5, 1)"
m_region = Map.create(
    region=region,
    map_type="region"
    axes=[energy_axis]
print(m_wcs, m_hpx, m_region)
```

Fig. 5. Using gammapy.maps to create a WCS, a HEALPix and a region based data structures. The initialisation parameters include consistently the positions of the center of the map, the pixel size, the extend of the map as well as the energy axis definition. The energy minimum and maximum values for the creation of the MapAxis object can be defined as strings also specifying the unit. Region definitions can be passed as strings following the DS9 region specifications http://ds9.si.edu/doc/ ref/region.html. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.3.

complexity of handling spherical geometry for regions, the regions are projected onto the local tangential plane using a WCS transform. This approach follows Astropy's Regions package (Bradley et al. 2022), which is both used as an API to define regions for users as well as handling the underlying geometric operations. Region based maps are represented by the RegionGeom and RegionNDMap classes.

### 3.5. gammapy.datasets

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The gammapy.datasets subpackage contains classes to bundle together binned data along with the associated models and likelihood function, which provides an interface to the Fit class (Sec 3.8.2) for modelling and fitting purposes. Depending upon the type of analysis and the associated statistic, different types of Datasets are supported. The MapDataset is used for combined spectral and morphological (3D) fitting, while a 1D spectral fitting can be

```
from pathlib import Path
from gammapy.datasets import (
    Datasets,
    FluxPointsDataset,
    MapDataset,
    SpectrumDatasetOnOff,
path = Path("$GAMMAPY_DATA")
map_dataset = MapDataset.read(
    path / "cta-1dc-gc/cta-1dc-gc.fits.gz",
    name="map-dataset",
spectrum_dataset = SpectrumDatasetOnOff.read(
    path / "joint-crab/spectra/hess/pha_obs23523.fits",
    name="spectrum-datasets",
flux_points_dataset = FluxPointsDataset.read(
    path / "hawc_crab/HAWC19_flux_points.fits",
    name="flux-points-dataset",
datasets = Datasets([
    map dataset,
    spectrum_dataset,
    flux_points_dataset
print(datasets["map-dataset"])
```

Fig. 6. Using gammapy.datasets to read existing reduced binned datasets. After the different datasets are read from disk they are collected into a common Datasets container. All dataset types have an associated name attribute to allow a later access by name in the code. The environment variable \$GAMMAPY\_DATA is automtically resolved by Gammapy. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.2.

performed using the SpectrumDataset. While the default 497 fit statistics for both of these classes is the Cash (Cash 498 1979) statistic, there are other classes which support analyses where the background is measured from control regions, so called "off" obervations. Those require the use of a different fit statistics, which takes into account the uncertainty of the background measurement. This case is covered by 503 the MapDatasetOnOff and SpectrumDatasetOnOff classes, 504 which use the WStat (Arnaud et al. 2022) statistic.

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The predicted counts are computed by convolution of 506 the models with the associated IRFs. Fitting of precomputed flux points is enabled through FluxPointsDataset, 508 using  $\chi^2$  statistics. Multiple datasets of same or different 509 types can be bundled together in Datasets (e.g., Figure 510 6), where the likelihood from each constituent member is 511 added, thus facilitating joint fitting across different observations, and even different instruments across different wavelengths. Datasets also provide functionalities for manipu- 514 lating reduced data, e.g. stacking, sub-grouping, plotting. 515 Users can also create their customized datasets for imple- 516 menting modified likelihood methods.

```
import astropy.units as u
from gammapy.data import DataStore
from gammapy.datasets import MapDataset
from gammapy.makers import (
    FoVBackgroundMaker,
    MapDatasetMaker,
    SafeMaskMaker
from gammapy.maps import MapAxis, WcsGeom
data_store = DataStore.from_dir(
    base_dir="$GAMMAPY_DATA/hess-dl3-dr1"
obs = data store.obs(23523)
energy_axis = MapAxis.from_energy_bounds(
    energy_min="1 TeV"
    energy_max="10 TeV".
    nbin=6,
)
geom = WcsGeom.create(
    skydir=(83.633, 22.014),
    width=(4, 3) * u.deg,
    axes=[energy_axis],
    binsz=0.02 * u.deg
)
empty = MapDataset.create(geom=geom)
maker = MapDatasetMaker()
mask_maker = SafeMaskMaker(
    methods=["offset-max", "aeff-default"],
    offset_max="2.0 deg",
)
bkg_maker = FoVBackgroundMaker(
    method="scale",
dataset = maker.run(empty, observation=obs)
dataset = bkg_maker.run(dataset, observation=obs)
dataset = mask_maker.run(dataset, observation=obs)
dataset.peek()
```

Fig. 7. Using gammapy.makers to reduce DL3 level data into a MapDataset. All Maker classes represent a step in the data reduction process. They take the configuration on initialisation of the class. They also consistently define .run() methods, which take a dataset object and optionally an Observation object. In this way, Maker classes can be chained to define more complex data reduction pipelines. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.5.

### 3.6. gammapy.makers

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The gammapy.makers sub-package contains the various classes and functions required to process and prepare  $\gamma$ -ray data from the DL3 to the DL4, representing the input for modelling and fitting. First, events are binned and IRFs are interpolated and projected onto the chosen analysis geometry. The end product of the data reduction process is a set of binned counts, background exposure, psf and energy dispersion maps at the DL4 level. The MapDatasetMaker

and SpectrumDatasetMaker are responsible for this task 527 for 3D and 1D analyses, respectively (see Figure 7).

Because background models usually suffer from 529 strong uncertainties, it is required to correct them 530 from the data themselves. Several techniques are commonly used in TeV  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy such as FoV background normalization or background measurement 533 in reflected regions, see Berge et al. (2007). Specific Makers such as the FoVBackgroundMaker or the 535 ReflectedRegionsBackgroundMaker are in charge of this process.

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Finally, to limit other sources of systematic uncer- 538 tainties, a data validity domain is determined by the SafeMaskMaker. It can be used to limit the extent of the FoV used, or to limit the energy range to, e.g., a domain where the energy reconstruction bias is below a given value. 542

#### 3.7. gammapy.stats

The gammapy.stats subpackage contains the fit statistics 544 and the associated statistical estimators commonly adopted 545 in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy. In general,  $\gamma$ -ray observations count 546 Poisson-distributed events at various sky positions and contain both signal and background events. To estimate the 548 number of signal events in the observation one typically uses Poisson maximum likelihood estimation (MLE). In practice this is done by minimizing a fit statistic defined by  $-2 \log \mathcal{L}$ , where  $\mathcal{L}$  is the likelihood function used. Gammapy uses the convention of a factor of 2 in front, such that a difference in log-likelihood will approach a  $\chi^2$  distribution in the statistial limit.

When the expected number of background events is 556 known, the statistic function is the so called *Cash* statistic (Cash 1979). It is used by datasets using background templates such as the MapDataset. When the number of background events is unknown, and an "off" measurement where only background events are expected is used, the statistic function is WStat. It is a profile log-likelihood statistic where the background counts are marginalized parameters. It is used by datasets containing "off" counts measurements 564 such as the SpectrumDatasetOnOff, used for classical spectral analysis.

To perform simple statistical estimations on counts measurements. CountsStatistic classes encapsulate the afore- 568 mentioned statistic functions to measure excess counts and 569 estimate the associated statistical significance, errors and 570 upper limits. They perform maximum likelihood ratio tests 571 to estimate significance (the square root of the statistic dif- 572 ference) and compute likelihood profiles to measure errors 573 and upper limits. The code example 8 shows how to com- 574 pute the Li & Ma significance (Li & Ma 1983) of a set of 575 measurements.

#### 3.8. gammapy.modeling

gammapy.modeling contains all the functionality related to 578 modelling and fitting data. This includes spectral, spatial 579 and temporal model classes, as well as the fit and parameter 580 API.

```
from gammapy.stats import WStatCountsStatistic
n_{on} = [13, 5, 3]
n_{off} = [11, 9, 20]
alpha = [0.8, 0.5, 0.1]
stat = WStatCountsStatistic(n_on, n_off, alpha)
# Excess
print(f"Excess: {stat.n_sig}")
# Significance
print(f"Significance: {stat.sqrt_ts}")
# Asymmetrical errors
print(f"Error Neg.: {stat.compute_errn(n_sigma=1.0)}")
print(f"Error Pos.: {stat.compute_errp(n_sigma=1.0)}")
```

Fig. 8. Using gammapy.stats to compute statistical quantities such as excess, significance and asymetric errors from counts based data. The data is passed on initialisation of the WStatCountsStatistic class. The quantities are the computed ON excess of the corresponding class attributes such as stat.n\_sig and stat.sqrt\_ts. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.4.

#### 3.8.1. Models

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Source models in Gammapy (Eq. 1) are four-dimensional analytical models which support two spatial dimensions defined by the sky coordinates  $\ell, b$ , an energy dimension E, and a time dimension t. To simplify the definition of the models, Gammapy uses a factorised representation of the total source model:

$$\phi(\ell, b, E, t) = F(E) \cdot G(\ell, b, E) \cdot H(t, E). \tag{5}$$

The spectral component F(E), described by the SpectralModel class, always includes an amplitude parameter to adjust the total flux of the model. The spatial component  $G(\ell, b, E)$ , described by the SpatialModel class, also depends on energy, in order to consider energydependent sources morphology. Finally, the temporal component H(t, E), described by the Temporal Model class, also supports an energy dependency in order to consider spectral variations of the model with time.

The models follow a naming scheme which contains the category as a suffix to the class name. The spectral models include a special class of normed models, named using the NormSpectralModel suffix. These spectral models feature a dimension-less norm parameter instead of an amplitude parameter with physical units. They can be used as an energy-dependent multiplicative correction factor to another spectral model. They are typically used for adjusting template-based models, or, for example, to take into account the absorbtion effect on  $\gamma$ -ray spectra caused by the extra-galactic background light (EBL) (EBLAbsorptionNormSpectralModel). Gammapy supports a variety of EBL absorption models, such as those from Franceschini et al. (2008), Finke et al. (2010), and Domínguez et al. (2011).

The analytical spatial models are all normalized such that they integrate to unity over the entire sky. The template spatial models may not, so in that special case they have to be combined with a NormSpectralModel.

```
from gammapy.modeling.models import (
    SkyModel,
    PowerLawSpectralModel,
    PointSpatialModel,
    ConstantTemporalModel,
# define a spectral model
pwl = PowerLawSpectralModel(
    amplitude="1e-12 TeV-1 cm-2 s-1", index=2.3
# define a spatial model
point = PointSpatialModel(
    lon_0="45.6 deg",
    lat_0="3.2 deg"
    frame="galactic"
)
# define a temporal model
constant = ConstantTemporalModel()
# combine all components
model = SkyModel(
    spectral_model=pwl,
    spatial_model=point,
    temporal_model=constant,
    name="my-model",
print(model)
```

Fig. 9. Using gammapy.modeling.models to define a source model with a spectral, spatial and temporal component. For convenience the model parameters can be defined as strings with attached units. The spatial model takes an additional frame parameter which allow users to define the coordinate frame of the position of the model. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.8.

The SkyModel class represents the factorised model in 617 Eq. 5 (the spatial and temporal components being op- 618 tional). A SkyModel object can represent the sum of sev- 619 eral emission components: either, for example, from mul- 620 tiple sources and from a diffuse emission, or from several 621 spectral components within the same source. To handle a 622 list of multiple SkyModel objects, Gammapy implements a 623 Models class.

The model gallery provides a visual overview of the 625 available models in Gammapy. Most of the analytic models 626 commonly used in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy are built-in. We also 627 offer a wrapper to radiative models implemented in the 628 Naima package (Zabalza 2015). The modelling framework 629 can be easily extended with user-defined models. For ex- 630 ample, the radiative models of jetted Active Galactic Nu- 631 clei (AGN) implemented in Agnpy, can be wrapped into 632 Gammapy (see Section 3.5 of Nigro et al. 2022a).

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The Fit class provides methods to fit, i.e. optimise, model 635 parameters and estimate their errors and correlations. It 636 interfaces with a Datasets object, which in turn is connected to a Models object containing the model parameters in its Parameters object. Models can be unique for a 639 given dataset, or contribute to multiple datasets, allowing 640

e.g., to perform a joint fit to multiple IACT datasets, or to 641 jointly fit IACT and Fermi-LAT datasets. Many examples 642 643 are given in the tutorials.

The Fit class provides a uniform interface to multiple 644 645 fitting backends:

```
– iminuit (Dembinski & et al. 2020)
```

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- scipy.optimize (Virtanen et al. 2020)
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```

- Sherpa (Refsdal et al. 2011; Freeman et al. 2001)

Note that, for now, covariance matrix and errors are computed only for the fitting with iminuit. However, depending on the problem other optimizers can perform better, so sometimes it can be useful to run a pre-fit with alternative optimization methods. In the future, we plan to extend the supported fitting backends, including for example solutions based on Markov chain Monte Carlo methods.

### 3.9. gammapy.estimators

By fitting parametric models to the data, the total  $\gamma$ -ray flux and its overall temporal, spectral and morphological components can be constrained. In many cases though, it is useful to make a more detailed follow-up analysis by measuring the flux in smaller spectral, temporal or spatial bins. This possibly reveals more detailed emission features, which are relevant for studying correlation with counterpart emissions.

The gammapy.estimators sub-module features methods to compute flux points, light curves, flux maps and flux profiles from data. The basic method for all these measurements is equivalent. The initial fine bins of MapDataset are grouped into larger bins. A multiplicative correction factor (the *norm*) is applied to the best fit reference spectral model and is fitted in the restricted data range, defined by the bin group only.

In addition to the best-fit flux norm, all estimators compute quantities corresponding to this flux. This includes: the predicted number of total, signal and background counts per flux bin; the total fit statistics of the best fit model (for signal and background); the fit statistics of the null hypothesis (background only); and the difference between both, the so-called test statistic value (TS). From this TS value, a significance of the measured signal and associated flux can be derived.

Optionally, the estimators can also compute more advanced quantities such as asymmetric flux errors, flux upper limits and one-dimensional profiles of the fit statistic, which show how the likelihood functions varies with the flux norm parameter around the fit minimum. This information is useful in inspecting the quality of a fit, for which a parabolic shape of the profile is asymptomatically expected at the best fit values.

The base class of all algorithms is the Estimator class. The result of the flux point estimation are either stored in a FluxMaps or FluxPoints object. Both objects are based on an internal representation of the flux which is independent of the Spectral Energy Distribution (SED) type. The flux

```
from astropy import units as u
from gammapy.datasets import MapDataset
from gammapy.estimators import TSMapEstimator
dataset = MapDataset.read("$GAMMAPY_DATA/cta-1dc-gc/cta-1dc-gc
estimator = TSMapEstimator(
    energy_edges=[0.1, 1, 10] * u.TeV,
    n_sigma=1,
    n_sigma_ul=2,
maps = estimator.run(dataset)
maps["sqrt_ts"].plot_grid(add_cbar=True)
```

Fig. 10. Using the TSMapEstimator object gammapy.estimators to compute a flux, flux upper limits and TS map. The additional parameters n\_sigma and n\_sigma\_ul define the confidence levels (in multiples of the normal distribution width) of the flux error and flux upper limit maps respectively. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.6.

is represented by a reference spectral model and an array of normalisation values given in energy, time and spatial bins, which factorises the deviation of the flux in a given 698 bin from the reference spectral model. This allows users to conveniently transform between different SED types. Table 1 shows an overview and definitions of the supported 701 SED types. The actual flux values for each SED type are 702 obtained by multiplication of the *norm* with the reference 703 flux.

Both result objects support the possibility to serialise 705 the data into multiple formats. This includes the GADF SED format <sup>4</sup>, FITS-based ND sky maps and other formats 707 compatible with Astropy's Table and BinnedTimeSeries data structures. This allows users to further analyse the results with Astropy, for example using standard algorithms for time analysis, such as the Lomb-Scargle periodogram or the Bayesian blocks. So far, Gammapy does not support unfolding of  $\gamma$ -ray spectra. Methods for this will be implemented in future versions of Gammapy.

The code example shown in Figure 10 shows how to use the TSMapEstimator objects with a given input MapDataset. In addition to the model, it allows to specify the energy bins of the resulting flux and TS maps.

### 3.10. gammapy.analysis

The gammapy.analysis sub-module provides a high-level 720 interface (HLI) for the most common use cases identified in 721  $\gamma$ -ray analyses. The included classes and methods can be used in Python scripts, notebooks or as commands within IPython sessions. The HLI can also be used to automatise workflows driven by parameters declared in a configuration file in YAML format. In this way, a full analysis can be executed via a single command line taking the configuration file as input.

The Analysis class has the responsibility for orchestrating the workflow defined in the configuration 730

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 $<sup>^3</sup>$  a prototype is available in gammapy-recipes,  ${\tt https:}$ //gammapy.github.io/gammapy-recipes/\_build/html/ notebooks/mcmc-sampling-emcee/mcmc\_sampling.html

<sup>4</sup> https://gamma-astro-data-formats.readthedocs.io/en/ latest/spectra/flux\_points/index.html

Type	Description	Unit Equivalency
dnde	Differential flux at a given energy	${ m TeV^{-1}cm^{-2}s^{-1}}$
e2dnde	Differential flux at a given energy	${ m TeV}{ m cm}^{-2}{ m s}^{-1}$
flux	Integrated flux in a given energy range	${\rm cm}^{-2}{\rm s}^{-1}$
eflux	Integrated energy flux in a given energy range	${\rm erg}{\rm cm}^{-2}{\rm s}^{-1}$

**Table 1.** Definition of the different SED types supported in Gammapy.

```
AnalysisConfig objects and triggering the execution of
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     the AnalysisStep classes that define the identified com-
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     mon use cases. These steps include the following: observa-
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     tions selection with the DataStore, data reduction, excess
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     map computation, model fitting, flux points estimation, and
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    light curves production.
```

#### 3.11. gammapy.visualization

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The gammapy.visualization sub-package contains helper functions for plotting and visualizing analysis results and Gammapy data structures. This includes, for example, the visualization of reflected background regions across multiple observations, or plotting large parameter correlation matrices of Gammapy models. It also includes a helper class to split wide field Galactic survey images across multiple panels to fit a standard paper size.

The sub-package also provides matplotlib implementations of specific colormaps. Those colormaps have been historically used by larger collaborations in the very highenergy domain (such as MILAGRO or H.E.S.S.) as "trademark" colormaps. While we explicitly discourage the use of those colormaps for publication of new results, because they do not follow modern visualization standards, such as linear brightness gradients and accessibility for visually impaired people, we still consider the colormaps useful for reproducibility of past results.

#### 756 3.12. gammapy.astro

The gammapy.astro sub-package contains utility functions for studying physical scenarios in high-energy astrophysics. The gammapy.astro.darkmatter module computes the so called J-factors and the associated  $\gamma$ -ray spectra expected from annihilation of dark matter in different channels, according to the recipe described in Cirelli et al. (2011).

In the gammapy.astro.source sub-module, dedicated classes exist for modelling galactic  $\gamma$ -ray sources according to simplified physical models, e.g. Supernova Remnant (SNR) evolution models (Taylor 1950; Truelove & McKee 1999), evolution of Pulsar Wind Nebulae (PWNe) during the free expansion phase (Gaensler & Slane 2006) or computation of physical parameters of a pulsar using a simplified dipole spin-down model.

In the gammapy.astro.population sub-module there are dedicated tools for simulating synthetic populations based on physical models derived from observational or theoretical considerations for different classes of Galactic very high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray emitters: PWNe, SNRs Case & Bhattacharya (1998), pulsars Faucher-Giguère & Kaspi (2006); Lorimer et al. (2006); Yusifov & Küçük (2004) and  $\gamma$ -ray binaries.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from gammapy.catalog import CATALOG_REGISTRY
catalog = CATALOG_REGISTRY.get_cls("4fgl")()
print("Number of sources :", len(catalog.table))
source = catalog["PKS 2155-304"]
_, axes = plt.subplots(ncols=2)
source.flux_points.plot(ax=axes[0], sed_type="e2dnde")
source.lightcurve().plot(ax=axes[1])
```

Fig. 11. Using gammapy.catalogs to access the underlying model, flux points and light-curve from the Fermi-LAT 4FGL catalog for the blazar PKS 2155-304. The output of the code example is shown in Figure A.7.

While the present list of use cases is rather preliminary, 779 this can be enriched with time by users and/or developers 780 according to future needs.

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## 3.13. gammapy.catalog

Comprehensive source catalogs are increasingly being pro- 783 vided by many high-energy astrophysics experiments. The 784 gammapy.catalog sub-packages provides a convenient access to the most important  $\gamma$ -ray catalogs. Catalogs are represented by the SourceCatalog object, which contains the 787 actual catalog as an Astropy Table object. Objects in the catalog can be accessed by row index, name of the object or any association or alias name listed in the catalog.

Sources are represented in Gammapy SourceCatalogObject class, which has the responsibility to translate the information contained in the catalog to other Gammapy objects. This includes the spatial and spectral models of the source, flux points and light curves (if available) for each individual object. Figure 11 show how to load a given catalog and access these information for a selected source. This module works independently from the rest of the package, and the required catalogs are supplied in the GAMMAPY DATA repository. The overview of 800 currently supported catalogs, the corresponding Gammapy 801 classes and references are shown in Table 2. Newly released 802 relevant catalogs will be added in future.

### 4. Applications

Gammapy is currently used for a variety of analyses by different IACT experiments and has already been employed in more than 60 scientific publications as of XX/03/2023<sup>5</sup>. In 807

 $<sup>^{5}</sup>$  List on ADS

Class Name	Shortcut	Description	Reference
SourceCatalog3FGL	"3fgl"	3 <sup>rd</sup> catalog of <i>Fermi</i> -LAT sources	Acero et al. (2015)
SourceCatalog4FGL	"4fgl"	4 <sup>th</sup> catalog of <i>Fermi</i> -LAT sources	Abdollahi et al. (2020)
SourceCatalog2FHL	"2fhl"	2 <sup>nd</sup> catalog high-energy <i>Fermi</i> -LAT sources	Ackermann et al. (2016)
SourceCatalog3FHL	"3fhl"	3 <sup>rd</sup> catalog high-energy <i>Fermi</i> -LAT sources	Ajello et al. (2017)
SourceCatalog2HWC	"2hwc"	2 <sup>nd</sup> catalog of HAWC sources	Abeysekara et al. (2017)
SourceCatalog3HWC	"3hwc"	3 <sup>rd</sup> catalog of HAWC sources	Albert et al. (2020)
SourceCatalogHGPS	"hgps"	H.E.S.S. Galactic Plane Survey catalog	H.E.S.S. Collaboration (2018b)
SourceCatalogGammaCat	"gammacat"	Open source data collection	Deil et al. (2022)

Table 2. Overview of supported catalogs in gammapy.catalog.

this section, we illustrate the capabilities of Gammapy by performing some standard analysis cases commonly considered in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy. Beside reproducing standard methodologies, we illustrate the unique data combination capabilities of Gammapy by presenting a multi-instrument analysis, which is not possible within any of the current instrument private software frameworks. The examples shown are based on the data accessible in the gammapy-data repository, and limited by the availability of public data. We remark that, as long as the data are compliant with the GADF specifications (or its future evolutions), and hence with Gammapy's data structures, there is no limitation on performing analyses of data from a given instrument.

#### 4.1. 1D Analysis

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One of the most common analysis cases in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy is measuring the spectrum of a source in a given region defined on the sky, in conventional astronomy also called aperture photometry. The spectrum is typically measured in two steps: first a parametric spectral model is fitted to the data and secondly flux points are computed in a pre-defined set of energy bins. The result of such an analysis performed on three simulated CTA observations is shown in Figure 12. In this case the spectrum was measured in a circular aperture centered on the Galactic Center, in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy often called "on region". For such analysis the user first chooses a region of interest and energy binning, both defined by a RegionGeom. In a second step, the events and the IRFs are binned into maps of this geometry, by the SpectrumDatasetMaker. All the data and reduced IRFs are bundled into a SpectrumDataset. To estimate the expected background in the "on region" a "reflected regions" background method was used (Berge et al. 2007), represented in Gammapy by the ReflectedRegionsBackgroundMaker class. The resulting reflected regions are illustrated for all three observations overlayed on the counts map in Figure 12. After reduction, the data were modelled using a forward-folding method and assuming a point source with a power law spectral shape. The model was defined, using the SkyModel class with a PowerLawSpectralModel spectral component only. This model was then combined with the SpectrumDataset, which contains the reduced data and fitted using the Fit class. Based on this best-fit model, the final flux points and corresponding log-likelihood profiles were computed using the FluxPointsEstimator.

#### 4.2. 3D Analysis

The 1D analysis approach is a powerful tool to measure the 853 spectrum of an isolated source. However, more complicated situations require a more careful treatment. In a FoV containing several overlapping sources, the 1D approach cannot disentangle the contribution of each source to the total flux 857 in the selected region. Sources with extended or complex 858 morphology can result in the measured flux being underestimated, and heavily dependent on the choice of extraction 860 region.

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For such situations, a more complex approach is needed, 862 the so-called 3D analysis. The three relevant dimensions 863 are the two spatial angular coordinates and an energy axis. In this framework, a combined spatial and spectral model (that is, a SkyModel, see Section 3.8) is fitted to the sky maps that were previously derived from the data reduction step and bundled into a MapDataset (see Sections 3.6 and 3.5).

A thorough description of the 3D analysis approach 870 and multiple examples that use Gammapy can be found 871 in Mohrmann et al. (2019). Here we present a short example to highlight some of its advantages.

Starting from the IRFs corresponding to the same three 874 simulated CTA observations used in Section 4.1, we can create a MapDataset via the MapDatasetMaker. However, we will not use the simulated event lists provided by CTA but 877 instead, use the method MapDataset.fake() to simulate 878 measured counts from the combination of several SkyModel 879 instances. In this way, a DL4 dataset can directly be simulated. In particular we simulate:

- 1. a point source located at  $(l=0^{\circ}, b=0^{\circ})$  with a power law 882 spectral shape,
- 2. an extended source with Gaussian morphology located at (l=0.4°, b=0.15°) with  $\sigma$ =0.2° and a log parabola spectral shape,
- 3. a large shell-like structure centered on (l=0.06°, b=0.6°) with a radius and width of 0.6° and 0.3° respectively and a power law spectral shape.

The position and sizes of the sources have been selected so that their contributions overlap. This can be clearly seen in the significance map shown in the left panel of Figure 13. This map was produced with the ExcessMapEstimator (see Section 3.9) with a correlation radius of 0.1°.

We can now fit the same model shapes to the simulated data and retrieve the best-fit parameters. To check the model agreement, we compute the residual significance map after removing the contribution from each model. This 898 is done again via the ExcessMapEstimator. As can be seen

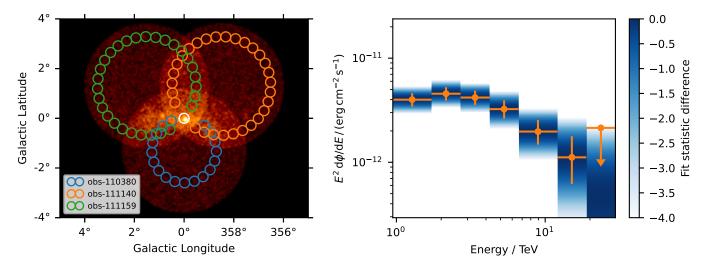


Fig. 12. Example of a one dimensional spectral analysis of the Galactic Center for three simulated CTA observations from the 1DC dataset. The left image shows the maps of counts with the signal region in white and the reflected background regions for the three different observations overlaid in different colors. The right image shows the resulting spectral flux points and their corresponding log-likelihood profiles. The flux points are shown in orange, with the horizontal bar illustrating the width of the energy bin and the vertical bar the 1  $\sigma$  error. The log-likelihood profiles for each energy bin are shown in the background. The colormap illustrates the difference of the log-likelihood to the log-likelihood of the best fit value.

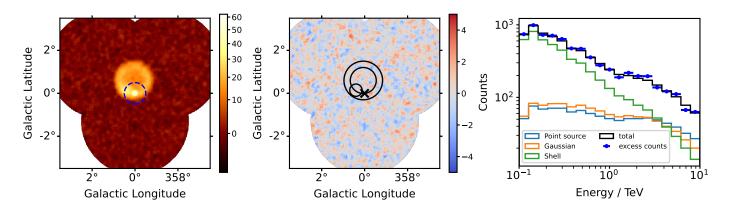


Fig. 13. Example of a 3D analysis for simulated sources with point-like, Gaussian and shell-like morphologies. The simulation uses prod5 IRFs from CTA. The left image shows a significance map (using the Cash statistics) where the three simulated sources can be seen. The middle figure shows another significance map, but this time after subtracting the best-fit model for each of the sources, which are displayed in black. The right figure shows the contribution of each source model to the circular region of radius 0.5° drawn in the left image, together with the excess counts inside that region.

in the middle panel of Figure 13, there are no regions above or below  $5\sigma$ , meaning that the models describe the data sufficiently well.

As the example above shows, the 3D analysis allows to characterize the morphology of the emission and fit it together with the spectral properties of the source. Among the advantages that this provides is the ability to disentangle the contribution from overlapping sources to the same spatial region. To highlight this, we define a circular RegionGeom of radius 0.5° centered around the position of the point source, which is drawn in the left panel of Figure 13. We can now compare the measured excess counts integrated in that region to the expected relative contribution from each of the three source models. The result can be seen in the right panel of Figure 13.

Note that all the models fitted also have a spectral component, from which flux points can be derived in a similar way as described in Section 4.1.

#### 4.3. Temporal Analysis

A common use case in many astrophysical scenarios is to 919 study the temporal variability of a source. The most basic 920 way to do this is to construct a light curve, i.e., the flux 921 of a source in each given time bin. In Gammapy, this is done by using the LightCurveEstimator that fits the normalisation of a source in each time (and optionally energy) band per observation, keeping constant other parameters. For custom time binning, an observation needs to be split into finer time bins using the Observation.select\_time method. Figure 14 shows the light curve of the blazar PKS 2155-304 in different energy bands as observed by the H.E.S.S. telescope during an exceptional flare on the 930 night of July 29 - 30, 2006 Aharonian et al. (2009). The 931 data are publicly available as a part of the HESS-DL3- 932 DR1 H.E.S.S. Collaboration (2018a). Each observation is 933 first split into 10 min smaller observations, and spectra extracted for each of these within a 0.11° radius around the 935

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source. A PowerLawSpectralModel is fit to all the datasets, leading to a reconstructed index of  $3.54 \pm 0.02$ . With this adjusted spectral model the LightCurveEstimator runs directly for two energy bands,  $0.5\,\mathrm{TeV}$  to  $1.5\,\mathrm{TeV}$  and  $1.5\,\mathrm{TeV}$  to  $20\,\mathrm{TeV}$  respectively. The obtained flux points can be analytically modelled using the available or user-implemented temporal models. Alternatively, instead of ex-tracting a light curve, it is also possible to directly fit temporal models to the reduced datasets. By associating an ap-propriate SkyModel, consisting of both temporal and spec-tral components, or using custom temporal models with spectroscopic variability, to each dataset, a joint fit across the datasets will directly return the best fit temporal and spectral parameters.

#### 4.4. Multi-instrument Analysis

In this multi-instrument analysis example we showcase the capabilities of Gammapy to perform a simultaneous likelihood fit incorporating data from different instruments and at different levels of reduction. We estimate the spectrum of the Crab Nebula combining data from the Fermi-LAT, MAGIC and HAWC instruments.

The Fermi-LAT data is introduced at the data level DL4, and directly bundled in a MapDataset. They have been prepared using the standard fermitools (Fermi Science Support Development Team 2019) and selecting a region of  $5^{\circ} \times 4^{\circ}$  around the position of the Crab Nebula, applying the same selection criteria of the 3FHL catalog (7 years of data with energy from 10 GeV to 2 TeV, Ajello et al. 2017).

The MAGIC data is included from the data level DL3. They consist of two observations of 20 min each, chosen from the dataset used to estimate the performance of the upgraded stereo system (MAGIC Collaboration 2016) and already included in Nigro et al. (2019). The observations were taken at small zenith angles ( $< 30^{\circ}$ ) in wobble mode (Fomin et al. 1994), with the source sitting at an offset of 0.4° from the FoV center. Their energy range spans 80 GeV to 20 TeV. The data reduction for the 1D analysis is applied, and the data are reduced to a SpectrumDataset before being fitted.

HAWC data are directly provided as flux points (DL5 data level) and are read via Gammapy's FluxPoints class. They were estimated in HAWC Collaboration (2019) with 2.5 years of data and span an energy range 300 GeV to 300 TeV.

Combining the datasets in a Datasets list, Gammapy automatically generates a likelihood including three different types of terms, two Poissonian likelihoods for Fermi-LAT's MapDataset and MAGIC's SpectrumDataset, and a  $\chi^2$  accounting for the HAWC flux points. For Fermi-LAT, a three-dimensional forward folding of the sky model with the IRF is performed, in order to compute the predicted counts in each sky-coordinate and energy bin. For MAGIC, a one-dimensional forward-folding of the spectral model with the IRFs is performed to predict the counts in each estimated energy bin. A log parabola is fitted over almost five decades in energy 10 GeV to 300 TeV, taking into account all flux points from all three datasets.

The result of the joint fit is displayed in Figure 15. We remark that the objective of this exercise is illustrative. We display the flexibility of Gammapy in simultaneously fitting multi-instrument data even at different levels of reduction,

without aiming to provide a new measurement of the Crab 997 Nebula spectrum. 998

### 4.5. Broadband SED Modelling

By combining Gammapy with astrophysical modelling 1000 codes, users can also fit astrophysical spectral models to 1001  $\gamma$ -ray data. There are several Python packages that are 1002 able to model the  $\gamma$ -ray emission, given a physical scenario. 1003 Among those packages are Agnpy (Nigro et al. 2022b), 1004 Naima (Zabalza 2015), Jetset (Tramacere 2020) and Gam-1005 era (Hahn et al. 2022). Typically those emission models 1006 predict broadband emission from radio, up to very high-1007 energy  $\gamma$  rays. By relying on the multiple dataset types in 1008 Gammapy those data can be combined to constrain such 1009 a broadband emission model. Gammapy provides a built-1010 in NaimaSpectralModel that allows users to wrap a given 1011 astrophysical emission model from the Naima package and 1012 fit it directly to  $\gamma$ -ray data.

As an example application, we use the same multi-1014 instrument dataset of the Crab Nebula, described in the 1015 previous section, and we apply an inverse Compton model 1016 computed with Naima and wrapped in the Gammapy mod-1017 els through the NaimaSpectralModel class. We describe 1018 the gamma-ray emission with an inverse Compton scenario, 1019 considering a log-parabolic electron distribution that scat-1020 ters photons from:

- the synchrotron radiation produced by the very same 1022 electrons
- near and far infrared photon fields
- and the cosmic microwave background (CMB)

We adopt the prescription on the target photon fields pro- 1026 vided in the documentation of the Naima package<sup>6</sup>. The 1027 best-fit inverse Compton spectrum is represented with a 1028 red dashed line in Figure 15.

### 4.6. Surveys, Catalogs, and Population Studies

Sky surveys have a large potential for new source detec- 1031 tions, and discovery of new phenomena in  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy. 1032 They also offer less selection bias to perform source pop- 1033 ulation studies over a large set of coherently detected and 1034 modelled objects. Early versions of Gammapy were devel- 1035 oped in parallel to the preparation of the H.E.S.S. Galactic 1036 plane survey catalog (HGPS, H.E.S.S. Collaboration et al. 1037 2018b) and the associated PWN and SNR populations studies (H.E.S.S. Collaboration et al. 2018a,c).

The increase in sensitivity and resolution provided by 1040 the new generation of instruments scales up the number 1041 of detectable sources and the complexity of models needed 1042 to represent them accurately. As an example, if we com- 1043 pare the results of the HGPS to the expectations from the 1044 CTA Galactic Plane survey simulations, we jump from 78 1045 sources detected by H.E.S.S. to about 500 detectable by 1046 CTA (Remy et al. 2021). This large increase in the amount 1047 of data to analyse and increase in complexity of modelling 1048 scenarios, requires the high-level analysis software to be 1049 both scalabale as well as performant.

In short, the production of catalogs from  $\gamma$ -ray surveys 1051 can be divided in four main steps: data reduction; object 1052

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://naima.readthedocs.io/en/stable/examples. html#crab-nebula-ssc-model

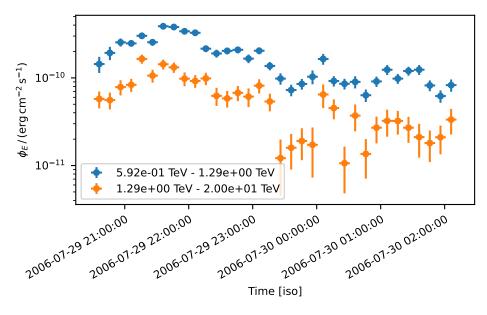


Fig. 14. Binned PKS 2155-304 light curve in two different energy bands as observed by the H.E.S.S. telescopes in 2006. The coloured markers show the flux points in the different energy bands: the range from (0.5 TeV to 1.5 TeV is shown in blue, while the range from 1.5 TeV to 20 TeV) is shown in orange. The horizontal error illustrates the width of the time bin of 10 min. The vertical error bars show the associated asymmetrical flux errors. The marker is set to the center of the time bin.

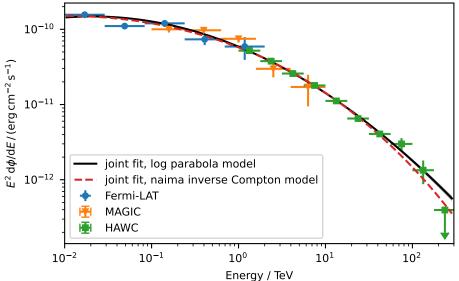


Fig. 15. A multi-instrument spectral energy distribution (SED) and combined model fit of the Crab Nebula. The colored markers show the flux points computed from the data of the different listed instruments. The horizontal error bar illustrates the width of the chosen energy band  $(E_{Min}, E_{Max})$ . The marker is set to the log-center energy of the band, that is defined by  $\sqrt{E_{Min} \cdot E_{Max}}$ . The vertical errors bars indicate the  $1\sigma$  error of the measurement. The downward facing arrows indicate the value of  $2\sigma$  upper flux limits for the given energy range. The black solid line shows the best fit model and the transparent band its  $1\sigma$  error range. The band is too small be visible.

detection; model fitting and model selection; associations and classification. All steps can either be done directly with Gammapy or by relying on the seamless integration of Gammapy with the scientific Python ecosystem. This allows to rely on 3rd party functionality wherever needed.

The IACTs data reduction step is done in the same way described in the previous sections but scaled up to few thousands of observations. The object detection step typically consists in finding local maxima in the significance or TS maps, computed by the ExcessMapEstimator or TSMapEstimator respectively. Further refinements can include for example filtering and detection on these maps with techniques from the Scikit-image package (van der Walt et al. 2014), and outlier detection from the Scikit-learn package (Pedregosa et al. 2011). This allows e.g., to reduce the number of spurious detections at this stage using standard classification algorithms and then speed up the next step, as less objects will have to be fitted simultaneously. During the modelling step each object is alternatively fitted with different models in order to determine their optimal parameters, and the best-candidate model. The subpackage gammapy.modeling.models offers a large variety of choices, and the possibility to add custom models. Several spatial 1075 models (point-source, disk, Gaussian...), and spectral mod- 1076 els (power law, log parabola...) may be tested for each ob- 1077 ject, so the complexity of the problem increases rapidly in 1078 regions crowded with multiple extended sources. Finally an 1079 object is discarded if its best-fit model is not significantly 1080 preferred over the null hypothesis (no source) comparing 1081 the difference in log likelihood between these two hypothe- 1082 ses

For the association and classification step, which is 1084 tightly connected to the population studies, we can easily compare the fitted models to the set of existing  $\gamma$ - 1086 ray catalogs available in gammapy.catalog. Further multi- 1087 wavelength cross-matches are usually required to charactorize the sources. This can easily be achieved by relying 1089 on coordinate handling from Astropy in combination with 1090 affiliated packages Astroquery (Ginsburg et al. 2019).

Studies performed on simulations not only offer a first 1092 glimpse on what could be the sky seen by CTA (according 1093 to our current knowledge on source populations), but also 1094 give us the opportunity to test the software on complex 1095

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use cases<sup>7</sup>. In this way we can improve performance, optimize our analyse strategies, and identify the needs in terms of parallelisation to process the large datasets provided by surveys.

## 5. The Gammapy Project

In this section, we provide an overview of the organization of the Gammapy project. We briefly describe the main roles and responsibilities within the team, as well as the technical infrastructure designed to facilitate the development and maintenance of Gammapy as a high-quality software. We use common tools and services for software development of Python open-source projects, code review, testing, package distribution and user support, with a customized solution for a versioned and thoroughly-tested documentation in the form of user-friendly playable tutorials. This section concludes with an outlook on the roadmap for future directions.

### 5.1. Organizational Structure

Gammapy is an international open-source project with a broad developer base and contributions and commitments from mutiple groups and leading institutes in the very high-energy astrophysics domain<sup>8</sup>. The main development roadmaps are discussed and validated by a Coordination Committee, composed of representatives of the main contributing institutions and observatories. This committee is chaired by a Project Manager and his deputy while two Lead Developers manage the development strategy and organise technical activities. This institutionally-driven organisation, the permanent staff and commitment of supporting institutes ensure the continuity of the executive teams. A core team of developers from the contributing institutions is in charge of the regular development, which benefits from regular contributions of the community at large.

#### 1129 5.2. Technical Infrastructure

Gammapy follows an open-source and open-contribution development model based on the cloud repository service GitHub. A GitHub organization  $gammapy^9$  hosts different repositories related with the project. The software codebase may be found in the gammapy repository (see Figure 16 for code lines statistics). We make extensive use of the pull request system to discuss and review code contributions.

Several automated tasks are set as GitHub actions<sup>10</sup>, blocking the processes and alerting developers when failures occur. This is the case of the continuous integration workflow, which monitors the execution of the test coverage suite<sup>11</sup> using datasets from the *gammapy-data* repository<sup>12</sup>. Tests scan not only the codebase, but also the code snippets present in docstrings of the scripts and in the RST

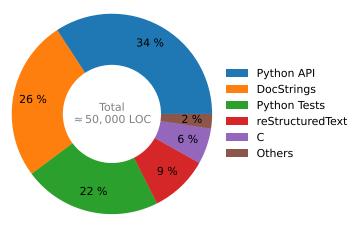


Fig. 16. Overview of used programming languages and distribution of code across the different file categories in the Gammapy code base. The total number of lines is  $\approx 50000$ .

documentation files, as well as in the tutorials provided in 1144 the form of Jupyter notebooks.

Other automated tasks, executing in the gammapy- 1146  $benchmarks^{13}$  repository, are responsible for numerical val- 1147 idation tests and benchmarks monitoring. Also, tasks re- 1148 lated with the release process are partially automated, and 1149 every contribution to the codebase repository triggers the 1150 documentation building and publishing workflow within the 1151 gammapy-docs repository 14 (see Sec. 5.3 and Sec. 5.4). 1152

This small ecosystem of interconnected up-to-date 1153 repositories, automated tasks and alerts, is just a part of 1154 a bigger set of GitHub repositories, where most of them 1155 are related with the project but not necessary for the de- 1156 velopment of the software (i.e., project webpage, comple- 1157 mentary high-energy astrophysics object catalogs, coding 1158 sprints and weekly developer calls minutes, contributions to 1159 conferences, other digital assets, etc). Finally, third-party 1160 services for code quality metrics are also set and may be 1161 found as status shields in the codebase repository.

### 5.3. Software Distribution

Gammapy is distributed for Linux, Windows and Mac envi- 1164 ronments, and installed in the usual way for Python pack- 1165 ages. Each stable release is uploaded to the Python pack- 1166 age index<sup>15</sup> and as a binary package to the *conda-forge* 1167 and *astropy* Anaconda repository<sup>16</sup> channels. At this time, 1168 Gammapy is also available as a Debian Linux package<sup>17</sup>. 1169 We recommend installing the software using the *conda* in- 1170 stallation process with an environment definition file that 1171 we provide, so to work within a virtual isolated environment 1172 with additional useful packages and ensure reproducibility. 1173

Gammapy is indexed in the Astronomy Source Code 1174 Library<sup>18</sup> and Zenodo<sup>19</sup> digital libraries for software. The 1175 Zenodo record is synchronised with the codebase GitHub 1176 repository so that every release triggers the update of the 1177

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Note that the CTA-GPS simulations were performed with the *ctools* package (Knödlseder et al. 2016) and analysed with both *ctools* and *gammapy* packages in order to cross-validate them.

<sup>8</sup> https://gammapy.org/team.html

<sup>9</sup> https://github.com/gammapy

<sup>10</sup> https://github.com/features/actions

<sup>11</sup> https://pytest.org

<sup>12</sup> https://github.com/gammapy/gammapy-data

<sup>13</sup> https://github.com/gammapy/gammapy-benchmarks

<sup>14</sup> https://github.com/gammapy/gammapy-docs

<sup>15</sup> https://pypi.org

<sup>16</sup> https://anaconda.org/anaconda/repo

 $<sup>^{17}\ \</sup>mathtt{https://packages.debian.org/sid/python3-gammapy}$ 

<sup>18</sup> https://ascl.net/1711.014

<sup>19</sup> https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4701488

ment meetings, etc.

versioned record. In addition, Gammapy has been added to the Open-source scientific Software and Service Repository<sup>20</sup> (Vuillaume et al. 2023) and indexed in the European Open Science Cloud catalog <sup>21</sup>.

In addition, Gammapy is also listed in the SoftWare Heritage <sup>22</sup> (SWH) archive Cosmo (2020). The archive collects, preserves, and shares the source code of publicly available software. SWH automatically scans open software repositories, like e.g. GitHub, and projects are archived in SWH by the means of SoftWare Heritage persistent IDentifiers (SWHID), that are guaranteed to remain stable (persistent) over time. The French open publication archive, HAL <sup>23</sup>, is using the Gammapy SWHIDs to register the releases as scientific products 24 of open science.

## 5.4. Documentation and User-support

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Gammapy provides its user community with a tested and versioned up-to-date online documentation<sup>25</sup> (Boisson et al. 2019) built with Sphinx<sup>26</sup> scanning the codebase Python scripts, as well as a set of RST files and Jupyter notebooks. The documentation includes a user guide, a set of executable tutorials, and a reference to the API automatically extracted from the code and docstrings. The Gammapy code snippets present in the documentation are tested in different environments using our continuous integration (CI) workflow based on GitHub actions.

The Jupyter notebooks tutorials are generated using the sphinx-gallery package (Nájera et al. 2020). The resulting web published tutorials also provide links to playground spaces in myBinder (Project Jupyter et al. 2018), where they may be executed on-line in versioned virtual environments hosted in the myBinder infrastructure. Users may also play with the tutorials locally in their laptops. They can download a specific version of the tutorials together with the associated datasets needed and the specific conda computing environment, using the gammapy download command.

We have also set up a solution for users to share recipes that do not fit in the Gammapy core documentation, but which may be relevant for specific use cases, in the form of Jupyter notebooks. Contributions happen via pull requests to the gammapy-recipes GitHub repository and are merged after a short review. All notebooks in the repository are tested and published in the Gammapy recipes webpage  $^{27}$ automatically using GitHub actions.

A growing community of users is gathering around the Slack messaging<sup>28</sup> and GitHub discussions<sup>29</sup> support forums, providing valuable feedback on the Gammapy functionalities, interface and documentation. Other communication channels have been set such as mailing lists, a Twitter account<sup>30</sup>, regular public coding sprint meetings,

https://eosc-portal.eu https://softwareheritage.org https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr  $^{24}$  https://hal.science/hal-03885031v1  $^{25}$  https://docs.gammapy.org  $^{26}$  https://www.sphinx-doc.org 27 https://gammapy.github.io/gammapy-recipes

28 https://gammapy.slack.com

29 https://github.com/gammapy/gammapy/discussions

30 https://twitter.com/gammapyST

https://projectescape.eu/ossr

5.5. Proposals for Improving Gammapy 1230

hands-on sessions within collaborations, weekly develop- 1228

An important part of Gammapy's development organ- 1231 isation is the support for *Proposals for improving* 1232 Gammapy(PIG). This system is very much inspired by 1233 Python's PEP<sup>31</sup> and Astropy's APE (Greenfield 2013) sys- 1234 tem. PIG are self-contained documents which outline a set 1235 of significant changes to the Gammapy code base. This in- 1236 cludes large feature additions, code and package restruc- 1237 turing and maintenance, as well as changes related to the 1238 organisational structure of the Gammapy project. PIGs can 1239 be proposed by any person in or outside the project and by 1240 multiple authors. They are presented to the Gammapy de- 1241 veloper community in a pull request on GitHub and then 1242 undergo a review phase in which changes and improvements 1243 to the document are proposed and implemented. Once the 1244 PIG document is in a final state it is presented to the 1245 Gammapy coordination committee, which takes the final 1246 decision on the acceptance or rejection of the proposal. 1247 Once accepted, the proposed change are implemented by 1248 Gammapy developers in a series of individual contributions 1249 via pull requests. A list of all proposed PIG documents is 1250 available in the Gammapy online documentation <sup>32</sup>.

A special category of PIGs are long-term roadmaps. To 1252 develop a common vision for all Gammapy project mem- 1253 bers on the future of the project, the main goals regarding 1254 planned features, maintenance and project organisation are 1255 written up as an overview and presented to the Gammapy 1256 community for discussion. The review and acceptance pro- 1257 cess follows the normal PIG guidelines. Typically roadmaps 1258 are written to outline and agree on a common vision for the 1259 next long term support release of Gammapy.

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#### 5.6. Release Cycle, Versioning, and Long-term Support

With the first long term support (LTS) release v1.0, the 1262 Gammapy project enters a new development phase. The 1263 development will change from quick feature-driven develop- 1264 ment to more stable maintenance and user support driven 1265 developement. After v1.0 we foresee a developement cycle 1266 with major, minor and bugfix releases; basically following 1267 the development cycle of the Astropy project. Thus we ex- 1268 pect a major LTS release approximately every two years, 1269 minor releases are planned every 6 months, while bug-fix re- 1270 leases will happen as needed. While bug-fix releases will not 1271 introduce API-breaking changes, we will work with a depre- 1272 cation system for minor releases. API-breaking changes will 1273 be announced to users by runtime warnings first and then 1274 implemented in the subsequent minor release. We consider 1275 this approach as a fair compromise between the interests 1276 of users in a stable package and the interest of developers 1277 to improve and develop Gammapy in future. The develop- 1278 ment cycle is described in more detail in PIG 23 (Terrier & 1279 Donath 2022). 1280

<sup>31</sup> https://peps.python.org/pep-0001/

<sup>32</sup> https://docs.gammapy.org/dev/development/pigs/index. html

### 6. Paper reproducibility

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One of the most important goals of the Gammapy project is to support open and reproducible science results. Thus we decided to write this manuscript openly and publish the Latex source code along with the associated Python scripts to create the figures in an open repository <sup>33</sup>. This GitHub repository also documents the history of the creation and evolution of the manuscript with time. To simplify the reproducibility of this manuscript including figures and text, we relied on the tool showyourwork (Luger 2021). This tool coordinates the building process and both software and data dependencies, such that the complete manuscript can be reproduced with a single make command, after downloading the source repository. For this we provide detailed instructions online<sup>34</sup>. Almost all figures in this manuscript provide a link to a Python script, that was used to produce it. This means all example analyses presented in Sec.4 link to actually working Python source code.

### 7. Summary and Outlook

In this manuscript we presented the first LTS version of Gammapy. Gammapy is a Python package for  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy, which relies on the scientific Python ecosystem, including Numpy, Scipy, and Astropy as main dependencies. It also holds the status of an Astropy affiliated package. It supports high-level analysis of astronomical  $\gamma$ -ray data from intermediate level data formats, such as the FITS based GADF. Starting from lists of  $\gamma$ -ray events and corresponding descriptions of the instrument response users can reduce and project the data to WCS, HEALPix and region based data structures. The reduced data is bundled into datasets, which serve as a basis for Poisson maximum likelihood modelling of the data. For this purpose Gammapy provides a wide selection of built-in spectral, spatial and temporal models, as well as unified fitting interface with connection to multiple optimization backends.

With the v1.0 release, the Gammapy project enters a new development phase. Future work will not only include maintenance of the v1.0 release, but also parallel development of new features, improved API and data model support. While v1.0 provides all the features required for standard and advanced astronomical  $\gamma$ -ray data analysis, we already identified specific improvements to be considered in the roadmap for a future v2.0 release. This includes the support for scalable analyses via distributed computing. This will allow users to scale an analysis from a few observations to multiple hundreds of observations as expected by deep surveys of the CTA observatory. In addition the highlevel interface of Gammapy is planned to be developed into a fully configurable API design. This will allow users to define arbitrary complex analysis scenarios as YAML files and even extend their workflows by user defined analysis steps via a registry system. Another important topic will be to improve the support of handling metadata for data structures and provenance information to track the history of the data reduction process from the DL3 to the highest DL5/DL6 data levels.

Áround the core Python package a large diverse community of users and contributors has developed. With regular

developer meetings, coding sprints and in-person user tu-1339 torials at relevant conferences and collaboration meetings, 1340 the community has constantly grown. So far Gammapy has 1341 seen 80 contributors from 10 different countries. With 1342 typically 10 regular contributors at any given time of the 1343 project, the code base has constantly grown its range of fea-1344 tures and improved its code quality. With Gammapy being 1345 officially selected in 2021 as the base library for the future 1346 science tools for CTA <sup>35</sup>, we expect the community to grow 1347 even further, providing a stable perspective for further us-1348 age, development and maintenance of the project. Besides 1349 the future use by the CTA community Gammapy has al-1350 ready been used for analysis of data from the H.E.S.S., 1351 MAGIC, ASTRI and VERITAS instruments.

While Gammapy was mainly developed for the sci- 1353 ence community around IACT instruments, the internal 1354 data model and software design are general enough to be 1355 applied to other  $\gamma$ -ray instruments as well. The use of 1356 Gammapy for the analysis of data from the High Alti- 1357 tude Water Cherenkov Observatory (HAWC) has been suc- 1358 cessfully demonstrated by Albert, A. et al. (2022). This 1359 makes Gammapy a viable choice for the base library for 1360 the science tools of the future Southern Widefield Gamma 1361 Ray Observatory (SWGO) and use with data from Large 1362 High Altitude Air Shower Observatory (LHAASO) as well. 1363 Gammapy has the potential to further unify the community 1364 of  $\gamma$ -ray astronomers, by sharing common tools, data for- 1365 mats and a common vision of open and reproducible science 1366 for the future.

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 33}$  https://github.com/gammapy/gammapy-v1.0-paper

<sup>34</sup> https://github.com/gammapy/gammapy-v1.0-paper/blob/main/README.md

 $<sup>^{35}\,</sup>$  CTAO Press Release

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### 1597 Appendix A: Code Examples Output

Observation id: 23523
N events: 7613
Max. area: 699771.0625 m2
Observation id: 23526
N events: 7581
Max. area: 623679.5 m2
Observation id: 23559
N events: 7601
Max. area: 613097.6875 m2
Observation id: 23592
N events: 7334
Max. area: 693575.75 m2

Fig. A.1. Output from the code example shown in Figure 3

#### MapDataset Name : map-dataset Total counts : 104317 Total background counts : 91507.70 Total excess counts : 12809.30 Predicted counts : 91507.69 Predicted background counts : 91507.70 Predicted excess counts : nan : 6.28e+07 m2 sExposure min Exposure max : 1.90e+10 m2 s Number of total bins : 768000 Number of fit bins : 691680 Fit statistic type Fit statistic value (-2 log(L)) : nan Number of models : 0 Number of parameters : 0

Fig. A.2. Output from the code example shown in Figure 6

: 0

Number of free parameters

```
WcsNDMap
        geom : WcsGeom
        axes : ['lon', 'lat', 'energy']
        shape: (100, 80, 10)
       ndim: 3
       unit
        dtype : float32
HpxNDMap
        geom : HpxGeom
        axes : ['skycoord', 'energy']
        shape: (3145728, 10)
        ndim : 3
        unit
        dtype : float32
{\tt RegionNDMap}
        geom : RegionGeom
        axes : ['lon', 'lat', 'energy']
        shape: (1, 1, 10)
        ndim : 3
        unit
        dtype : float32
```

Fig. A.3. Output from the code example shown in Figure 5

```
Excess: [4.2 0.5 1.]
Significance: [0.95461389 0.18791253 0.62290414]
Error Neg.: [4.3980796 2.56480097 1.50533827]
Error Pos.: [4.63826301 2.91371256 2.11988712]
```

Fig. A.4. Output from the code example shown in Figure 8

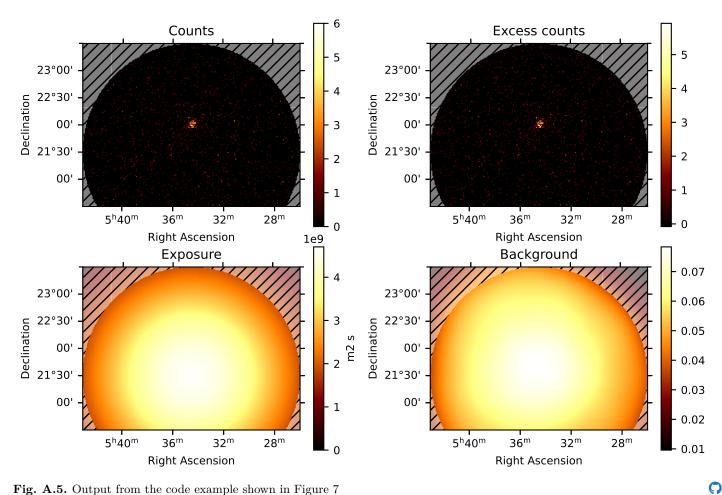


Fig. A.5. Output from the code example shown in Figure 7

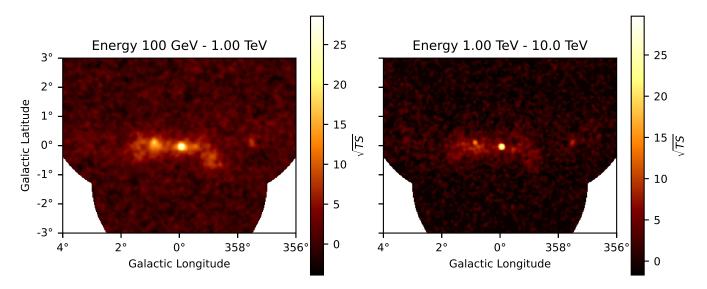


Fig. A.6. Output from the code example shown in Figure 10

()

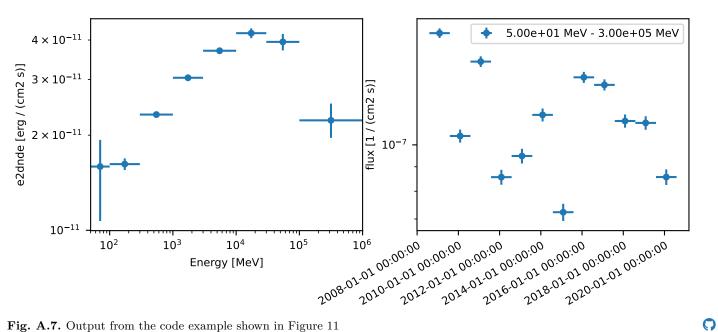


Fig. A.7. Output from the code example shown in Figure 11

#### SkyModel Name : my-model Datasets names : None Spectral model type Spatial model type Temporal model type : PowerLawSpectralModel : PointSpatialModel : ConstantTemporalModel Parameters: index 2.300 +/-0.00 +/- 0.0e+00 1 / (cm2 s TeV) amplitude 1.00e-12 reference 1.000 (frozen): TeV 0.00 deg lon\_0 45.600 lat\_0 3.200 0.00 deg

 ${\bf Fig.~A.8.}$  Output from the code example shown in Figure 9