# Manual for FSPS v3.2

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### 1. Overview

The collection of fortran routines contained in this package allows the user to compute simple stellar populations (SSPs) for a variety of IMFs and metallicities, and for a variety of assumptions regarding the morphology of the horizontal branch, the blue straggler population, the post–AGB phase, and the location in the HR diagram of the TP-AGB phase. A variety of simple and flexible prescriptions for attenuation by dust are also included, as are dust emission models from diffuse dust and an AGN torus. From these SSPs the user may then generate composite stellar populations (CSPs) for a variety of star formation histories (SFHs) and dust attenuation prescriptions. Outputs include the spectra and magnitudes of the SSPs and CSPs at arbitrary redshift. In addition to these fortran routines a collection of IDL routines are provided that allow easy manipulation of the output.

The user is strongly encouraged to read Conroy et al. (2009) for an overview of stellar population synthesis (SPS) and for details regarding this collection of routines. This code has been extensively calibrated against a suite of observational data (for details see Conroy & Gunn 2010; Johnson et al. 2021). The code package is a in essence a highly flexible SPS code and has therefore come to be called FSPS.

The rest of this manual is organized as follows. In §1 we briefly discuss the overall philosophy of the code structure and highlight the main features. In §2 we present the routines, how they are used, and provide the user with a basic program that demonstrates the use of the routines. §3 discusses the IDL routines provided to read and manipulate the outputs from the fortran package. §4 discusses a variety of questions (ok, only one) the user may have.

For a description of revisions since the initial release of the code, see the file REVISION\_HISTORY in the doc directory. Installation instructions are also provided in that directory.

### 1.1 Downloading the code

FSPS is distributed via github: github.com/cconroy20/fsps (the googlecode SVN repository is no longer supported). The code can be checked out with standard github commands. Emails will be sent to the mailing list whenever new versions become available (this is one reason why it is essential for users of this code to be on the mailing list).

# 1.2 Environment variables

As mentioned on the webpage, you will need to set an environment variable called SPS\_HOME that points to the root SPS directory (i.e. the directory that contains the src, OUTPUTS, etc. directories)

## 1.3 Inclusion of TP-AGB spectra

The TP-AGB empirical spectral library does not extend past the rest-frame K-band and so in previous versions the integrated spectra were not reliable beyond  $\lambda \approx 2.4 \mu m$ . The TP-AGB spectra are extrapolated blueward with simpler linear slopes (as advocated in Lancon & Wood 2002). The spectra of the carbon stars are now extrapolated redward with the Aringer et al. (2009) synthetic carbon star spectral library. The spectra of the oxygen-rich TP-AGB stars are now extrapolated with the latest version of the PHOENIX stellar spectral library (the BT-SETTL library).

# 1.4 Units

This code produces two types of files. The first are spectral files (\*.spec). The spectra are in units of  $L_{\odot}/\mathrm{Hz}$ , i.e. they are  $f_{\nu}$ . Integrating over frequency generates the bolometric luminosity of the spectrum. Wavelengths are in angstroms in vacuum, and the wavelength array for the stellar libraries can be found in the files BaSeL3.1/basel.lambda and MILES/miles.lambda. The full wavelength array is also now printed in the first line in the \*.spec files. The second type of file contains magnitudes in a variety of filters. The magnitude zero point (i.e., AB or Vega) is set by the variable compute\_vega\_mags described below. Both of these output files contain information on the age, mass, bolometric luminosity, and star formation rate. All of these quantities are in the log (base-10), with units of years,  $M_{\odot}$ ,  $L_{\odot}$ , and  $M_{\odot}$  yr<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.

## 1.5 Redshift Effects

The code allows the user to specify a redshift (see Section 3.1.2 below). Specifying a non-zero redshift affects both the computed magnitudes and spectra. There are two qualitatively different options for redshifting. See the parameter redshift\_colors below for more details. The returned magnitudes include both the relevant (1+z) factors and the distance modulus. Also as of v2.5, IGM absorption via Madau (1995) can be turned on and will attenuate the spectrum (and mags). This feature is enabled only for non-zero redshifts.

#### 1.6 Filters

The current release contains 142 filters. The filter names can be found in the file FILTER\_LIST in the data directory. The actual filter definitions are in the file allfilters.dat in the same directory. The transmission profiles in this file include atmospheric absorption and are in units of relative response per photon (as opposed for example to relative response per unit power). The filters are normalized internally within the code. The output magnitudes are listed in the filter order displayed in the FILTER\_LIST file. The user is cautioned to use whenever possible the exact filter transmission curve appropriate for the data being considered. There is, for example, no such thing as THE B—band filter. Differences of a few hundredths of a magnitude are common between different definitions of a given filter such as B.

# 1.7 Computation of magnitudes

The AB magnitude through a filter  $b, m_b$ , is defined according to the following formulae:

$$\langle f_{\nu} \rangle_{b} = \frac{\int R_{\gamma}^{b} f_{\nu} \, \mathrm{d} \ln \nu}{\int (\nu / \nu_{b})^{\beta} R_{\gamma}^{b} \, \mathrm{d} \ln \nu} \tag{1}$$

$$m_b = -2.5\log_{10}(\langle f_{\nu} \rangle_b) - 48.60$$
 (2)

where  $f_{\nu}$  is the spectrum and  $R_{\gamma}^{b}$  is the relative response per photon of the filter. The factor  $(\nu/\nu_{b})^{\beta}$  in the demoninator of Equation 1 may surprise those used to working with optical photometry. Indeed, for UV, optical, and near-IR photometry, one usually adopts  $\beta=0$  (e.g., for the GALEX, SDSS, and 2MASS surveys). However, IR photometry typically assumes a different calibration. For example, the *IRAS*, *Spitzer* IRAC, and *Herschel* PACS and SPIRE magnitudes are frequently quoted assuming  $\beta=1$  while the *Spitzer* MIPS filters adopt  $\beta=2$  (i.e., a  $10^4$  K blackbody). The parameter  $\nu_{b}$  is the central wavelength of the filter.

The motivation underlying this convention is that for sources with an intrinsic spectral slope  $\beta$ , the bandpass-convolved flux quoted at frequency  $\nu_b$  will be precisely the flux at that frequency. For example, observing a  $10^4 \mathrm{K}$  blackbody through the MIPS filters with the above calibration will return a flux density at the central frequency of the filter that is precisely the true flux at  $\nu_b$ . In the end, this is merely a convention, but one that must be handled carefully when comparing data to models. See the routine <code>sps\_setup.f90</code> for implementation.

## 1.8 Interpretation of the $\Delta_L$ and $\Delta_T$ parameters

As described below, the user may modify the bolometric luminosity and effective temperature of the TP-AGB phase by applying overall shifts in  $\log(L_{\rm bol})$  and  $\log(T_{\rm eff})$  via the parameters  $\Delta_L$  and  $\Delta_T$ . These parameters represent shifts with respect to the best-fit values found in Villaume et al. (2015).

### 1.9 Dust absorption models

The philosophy of the primary dust absorption model closely follows the two component model of Charlot & Fall (2000). In the general case there is dust associated with young stars (where the defintion of young is defined by the parameter dust\_tesc) with an optical depth dust1 and a power-law attenuation curve with index dust1\_index. There is a second dust component affecting all stars equally and is implemented as a uniform screen. This component has an optical depth dust2 and an attenuation curve specified by the parameter dust\_type. Currently supported attenuation models include a power-law curve with index dust\_index, a Milky-Way-like curve (following CCM89 but with a variable UV bump strength), a Calzetti

et al. (2000) curve, models from Witt & Gordon (2000) and the parameterized models from Kriek & Conroy (2013). Note that one can specify an effective uniform screen (as commonly employed when implementing the Calzetti curve, although technically one should not think of of the Calzetti law as representing a uniform screen) by setting dust1= 0.0.

## 1.10 Dust emission model

FSPS includes two models for dust emission (see the parameter add\_dust\_emission below) – the Draine & Li 2007 model (DL07) and the THEMIS model (Jones et al. 2013, 2017). Since there is currently no publication discussing this aspect of FSPS, a few words regarding the details and implementation of the dust emission model are in order.

The Draine & Li (2007; DL07) is a silicate-graphite-PAH grain model. The model produces dust emission spectra from  $1-10^4\mu m$  as a function of the interstellar radiation field, U, expressed in units of the Milky Way radiation field. DL07 advocate constructing spectra for entire galaxies by summing up emission spectra over a range of radiation field strengths, P(U)dU approximated by a delta function at  $U_{\min}$  and a power-law component from  $U_{\min} < U \le U_{\max}$ . As suggested by DL07, we have fixed  $U_{\max} = 10^6$  and the power-law slope to be  $\alpha = 2.0$ . We therefore have:  $P(U)dU = (1-\gamma)\delta(U-U_{\min}) + \gamma AU^{-2}$ , where  $(1-\gamma)$  is the fraction of dust mass exposed to starlight intensity  $U_{\min}$  and A is a normalization constant. The DL07 model thus has three parameters,  $U_{\min}$ ,  $\gamma$ , and  $q_{\rm PAH}$ , the latter parameter being the PAH fraction. These three parameters are contained in the parameter set and are called duste\_umin, duste\_gamma, duste\_qpah. The user can define each of these parameters in FSPS.

The THEMIS model has a similar setup to DL07 but with different underlying grain physics, and a wider allowed range in  $q_{\text{PAH}}$  and  $U_{\text{min}}$ .

## 1.11 Circumstellar dust

Circumstellar dust around AGB stars is an option that can be included if the switch add\_agb\_dust\_model is turned on, which it is by default. The circumstellar dust models are a grid of models derived from the radiative transfer code DUSTY, see Villaume et al. 2015 for details.

# 1.12 AGN dust

Dust emission associated with an AGN torus is an option that can be included if the switch add\_agn\_dust is turned on, which it is by default. In order for AGN dust to have an effect one must also set the pset parameter fagn to a non-zero value; by default this is set to 0.0. The AGN dust model is from Nenkova et al. (2008). Note that the models available within FSPS are a very small subset of the grids provided by Nenkova et al.; i.e., aside from the overall amplitude, the only other free parameter is the V-band optical depth of individual clouds.

## 1.13 Nebular emission

Nebular continuum and line emission is included within FSPS based on Cloudy tables provided by Nell Byler. The details of these grids are presented in Byler et al. (2017). This feature is on by default, and the relevant switch is add\_neb\_emission. One can also selectively turn off the continuum emission, choose between Cloudy tables that do or do not include dust, and can vary the gas-phase metallicity and ionization parameter.

#### 1.14 Bursts of star formation

At present the user is able to specify a single burst time and burst strength. In the future it will be possible to specify multiple bursts. Note that while the bursts are added into the spectrophotometric outputs, they are *not* included in the output SFR columns. It is up to the user to add in these components by hand to the resulting effective SFR.

## 1.15 Output quantities

The basic executable routines available in the public distribution of FSPS outputs two files containing magnitudes and spectra. FSPS can also output two other files: color magnitude diagrams in all available

filters and spectral indices in the Lick system with several additional indices. In order to output these files the user must modify the syntax calling compsp (specifically the write\_compsp variable).

## 1.16 BPASS models

BPASS stellar population models are included in FSPS. These are binary stellar evolution models (v2.2; Eldridge, Stanway et al. 2017) that are made available as SSP SEDs for a variety of ages, metallicities, and IMFs. For this reason the BPASS models are handled differently than the other isochrone models in FSPS. Specifically, because the models are tabulated directly as SSPs, the user cannot modify the spectral library nor the adopted IMF. The BPASS models we have made available within FSPS are the "-bin-imf135all\_100" models, i.e., they assume a Salpeter IMF with an upper mass cutoff of  $100M_{\odot}$ . We have not included the very lowest metallicity model and have cut off the age grid at 15.8 Gyr.

## 1.17 How to use this code, generally speaking

The code provided in this package is optimally designed to be integrated into a larger fortran program. The code reads all of the libraries into memory and then utilizes various routines to compute SSPs and CSPs. The benefit of the structure of this package is that it allows the user to produce very large numbers of models relatively quickly (e.g.,  $\sim 10^5$  models in 30 minutes on a 2.66 GHz Intel processor). It also allows one to easily integrate SPS into particular science tasks.

For those more interested in generating quick results, rather than using the more flexible aspects of the code, we also provide a routine that generates results after prompting the user for input. This program is called autosps.exe. Note that all outputs are placed in the OUTPUTS directory, included in the tarball, by default.

There is a well-maintained set of Python interfaces to FSPS, originally created by Dan Foreman-Mackey and now maintained by Ben Johnson, available here: https://github.com/dfm/python-fsps.

## 2. Details of Fortran Routines

## 2.1 The sps\_vars.f90 Module: Common Variables, Parameters, and Structure Set-up

It is recommended that the user read through the <code>sps\_vars.f90</code> module. This module must be called at the beginning of every program that uses the routines described below. It sets up two types of variables: common and parameters. Both parameters and common variables can be seen by all routines and thus do not have to be explicitly passed during a call to a routine. The difference between the two is that the parameters are defined once in <code>sps\_vars.f90</code> and thereafter cannot be changed. The common variables, by contrast, can be changed by various routines (see § 3.1.1). Be careful when changing common variables! The variables in this module are well-documented. Most parameters should not be changed.

The sps\_vars.f90 module also sets up structures (for those who are not familiar with fortran structures, they are similar in many ways to structures in IDL). There are two main structures that are used extensively in many routines. One of these is defined to conveniently handle the output of the compsp.f90 routine; it should not be of much concern for most users. The second structure defines the parameter set. It is sufficiently important to warrant a more detailed discussion (see § 3.1.2).

# 2.1.1 Defining the isochrones, stellar libraries, and dust emission model

At the top of the sps\_vars.f90 module there are lines that start with #define. These lines set switches that tell the code to compile certain portions of the module depending on which switches are set. The switches are binary, with '1'=on and '0'=off. So for example in the standard release of sps\_vars.f90 you will see:

#define BASEL 1
#define MILES 0
#define PADOVA 0

#define MIST 1

```
#define BASTI 0
#define GENEVA 0
#define BPASS 0
#define DL07 1
#define THEMIS 0
```

#define PARSEC 0

which tells the code to use the BaSeL stellar library, the MIST isochrones, and the DL07 dust emission model. It is very important that you 'make clean' every time you change one of these switches.

### 2.1.2 Common variables & parameters

We briefly describe several of the most important and most used common variables and parameters. These parameters are defined in sps\_vars.f90.

- add\_agb\_dust\_model Parameter to turn on/off the AGB circumstellar dust emission model presented in Villaume et al. (2014). By default this is function is turned on as of v2.5.
- add\_dust\_emission Parameter to turn on/off the dust emission model.
- add\_agn\_dust Parameter to turn on/off the AGN dust emission model of Nenkova et al. (2008).
- add\_igm\_absorption Parameter to turn on/off IGM absorption according to Madau (1995). By default this option is turned off.
- add\_neb\_emission Parameter to turn on/off the nebular emission model (both continuum and line emission), based on Cloudy models from Nell Byler. By default this option is turned on.
- add\_neb\_continuum Parameter to turn on/off the nebular continuum. By default this option is turned on. add\_neb\_emission must be turned on for this option to have any effect.
- add\_stellar\_remnants Parameter to turn on/off the inclusion of stellar remnants in the calculation of stellar masses.
- compute\_vega\_mags A switch that sets the zero points of the magnitude system:
  - − 0: AB system
  - 1: Vega system
- dust\_type Common variable defining the attenuation curve for the diffuse dust component:
  - 0: power-law; see variable dust\_index below.
  - 1: Milky Way extinction law parameterized by Cardelli et al. (1989), with variable UV bump strength; see variables mwr and uvb below.
  - 2: Calzetti et al. (2000) attenuation curve. Note that if this option is set then the dust attenuation is applied to all starlight equally (not split by age), and therefore the only relevant parameter is dust2 (defined below), which sets the overall normalization (you must set dust1= 0.0 for this to work correctly).
  - 3: allows the user to access a variety of attenuation curve models from Witt & Gordon (2000). See the parameters wgp1, wgp2, and wgp3 in §3.1.2. In this case the parameters dust1 and dust2 have no effect because the WG00 models specify the full attenuation curve.
  - 4: Kriek & Conroy (2013) attenuation curve. In this model the slope of the curve, set by the variable dust\_index, is linked to the strength of the UV bump.

- imf\_type Common variable defining the IMF type:
  - **0:** Salpeter (1955)
  - 1: Chabrier (2003)
  - **2:** Kroupa (2001)
  - **3:** van Dokkum (2008)
  - **4:** Dave (2008)
  - 5: tabulated piece-wise power-law IMF, specified in imf.dat file located in the data directory (or specified via the parameter imf\_filename; see below).

### • redshift\_colors

- 0: Magnitudes are computed at a fixed redshift specified in the parameter set (see below)
- 1: Magnitudes are computed at a redshift that corresponds to the age of the output SSP/CSP (assuming a redshift–age relation appropriate for a WMAP5 cosmology). This switch is useful if the user wants to compute the evolution in *observed* colors of a SSP/CSP.
- smooth\_velocity Switch to smooth the spectrum in velocity space. If off, the spectrum is smoothed in wavelength space. The degree of smoothing is determined by the variable sigma\_smooth in the parameter set (see below).
- smooth\_lsf Parameter to smooth the SSPs by a tabulated instrumental LSF provided in data/lsf.dat. The assumed units are km/s (sigma, not FWHM). Turned off by default.
- tpagb\_norm\_type Parameter to choose the normalization of the TP-AGB stars (only applies to the Padova isochrones):
  - 0: Default normalization of the Padova isochrones
  - 1: Normalization from Conroy & Gunn (2010)
  - 2: Normalization from Villaume et al. (2015)
- time\_res\_incr Parameter setting the factor by which the resolution of the default isochrone age array is increased. Default value is 2, which is sufficient for most purposes.
- vactoair\_flag Parameter to write wavelengths in air rather than vacuum if set to 1. The default is to write wavelengths in vacuum.
- verbose Parameter that controls output to screen. If set to 1 a lot of output will be printed to screen, if set to 0 the programs will be silent.

#### 2.1.3 The Parameter Set

The parameter set is a structure defined in the <code>sps\_vars.f90</code> module. It must be defined at the beginning of every program for the various routines to properly work. This structure acts as the primary interface between what the user would like to compute and the various subroutines that actually do the work. Simply defining the structure at the beginning of the program will set all structure elements to their default values (see the example program <code>simple.f90</code>). The elements of the structure, and the default values, are described below. The parameters are organized by topic, e.g., star formation history, IMF, dust, and stellar evolution parameters.

### **Basic Parameters**

- zred Redshift. If this value is non-zero and if redshift\_colors= 0, the magnitudes will be computed for the spectrum placed at redshift zred. Default value is 0.0.
- zmet Metallicity. The metallicity is specified as an integer ranging between 1 and 22 for the Padova isochrones and between 1 and 10 for the BaSTI isochrones. A lookup table for the actual metallicities corresponding to the integer values is provided at the end of this manual. Note that  $Z_{\odot} = 0.0190$ . Default value is 1.
- imf1 Logarithmic slope of the IMF over the range  $0.08 < M < 0.5 M_{\odot}$ . Only used if imf\_type= 2. Default value is 1.3.
- imf2 Logarithmic slope of the IMF over the range  $0.5 < M < 1.0 M_{\odot}$ . Only used if imf\_type= 2. Default value is 2.3.
- imf3 Logarithmic slope of the IMF over the range  $1.0 < M < 100 M_{\odot}$ . Only used if imf\_type= 2. Default value is 2.3.
- vdmc IMF parameter defined in van Dokkum 2008. Only used if imf\_type= 3. Default value is 0.08.
- mdave IMF parameter defined in Dave 2008. Only used if imf\_type= 4. Default value is 0.5.
- evtype Only include isochrone points at a particular evolutionary phase specified in the isochrone table (see data/ev\_phases.tex for phase options). Only available with the BaSTI isochrone option. All phases used when set to -1. Default value is -1.
- masscut Only include masses above masscut in the synthesis. Default value is 150.0.
- imf\_filename Filename of the tabulated IMF file located in the data directory. If unset, the default imf.dat is assumed. Only applies if imf\_type= 5.
- mag\_compute Integer array of length nbands. Allows the user to choose which magnitudes are computed from the filter list. 1=yes, 0=no. All magnitudes are still printed to the mag file, but if the particular band has a value of 0 in this array, the output value will be 99. Default values are 1 for all bands.
- sigma\_smooth Broadening of the spectrum, in units of km s<sup>-1</sup> (if smooth\_velocity= 1) or Å, (if smooth\_velocity= 0). This specifies the width of the Gaussian in terms of  $\sigma$ , not FWHM. Default value is 0.0.
- min\_wave\_smooth Minimum wavelength, in Å, that will be smoothed if sigma\_smooth> 0. Default value is 1000 Å.
- max\_wave\_smooth Maximum wavelength, in Å, that will be smoothed if sigma\_smooth> 0. Default value is 10,000 Å.
- gas\_logu Value of the gas ionization parameter, *U*; relevant only for the nebular emission model *Default* value is -2.0.

- ullet gas\_logz Value of the gas metallicity; relevant only for the nebular emission model *Default value is* 0.0
- igm\_factor Factor by which to multiply the default IGM absorption optical depth *Default value is* 1.0.

#### **SFH Parameters**

- sfh defines the type of star formation history, normalized such that one solar mass of stars is formed over the full SFH. Default value is 0.
  - **0**: SSP
  - 1: A six parameter SFH (tau model plus a constant component and a burst), with parameters tau, const, sf\_start, sf\_trunc, tburst, and fburst (see below).
  - 2: Tabulated SFH defined in a file called sfh.dat that must reside in the data directory (or a file specified via the parameter sfh\_filename; see below). The file must contain three columns. The first column is time since the Big Bang in Gyr, the second is the SFR in units of solar masses per year, the third is the absolute metallicity. An example is provided in the data directory. The time grid in this file can be arbitrary (so long as the units are correct), but it is up to the user to ensure that the tabulated sfh is well-sampled so that the outputs are stable. Obviously, highly oscillatory data require dense sampling.
  - 3: Reserved for special use of the tabulated SFH option. Allows the user to read in the tabulated SFHs directly into the necessary arrays, bypassing the need to create sfh.dat files. Email cconroy@cfa.harvard.edu if you would like further instructions for how to use this option.
  - 4: This is the same as option 1 except that the tau-model component is replaced with a delayed tau model of the form  $te^{-t/\tau}$ .
  - 5: Delayed tau model with a transition at a time sf\_trunc to a linearly decreasing SFH with the slope specified by sf\_slope. See Simha et al. 2014 for details.
- tau Defines e-folding time for the SFH, in Gyr. Only used if sfh= 1 or 4. The range is  $0.1 < \tau < 10^2$ . Default value is 1.0.
- const Defines the constant component of the SFH. This quantity is defined as the fraction of mass formed in a constant mode of SF; the range is therefore  $0 \le C \le 1$ . Only used if sfh= 1 or 4. Default value is 0.0.
- sf\_start Start time of the SFH, in Gyr. Default value is 0.0.
- sf\_trunc Truncation time of the SFH, in Gyr. If set to 0.0, there is no trunction. Default value is 0.0.
- tage If set to a non-zero value, the compsp routine will compute the spectra and magnitudes only at this age, and will therefore only output one age result. The units are Gyr. (The default is for compsp to compute and return results from  $t \approx 0$  to the maximum age in the isochrones). Default value is 0.0.
- fburst Defines the fraction of mass formed in an instantaneous burst of star formation. Only used if sfh= 1 or 4. Default value is 0.0.
- tburst Defines the age of the Universe when the burst occurs, in Gyr. If tburst>tage then there is no burst. Only used if sfh= 1 or 4. Default value is 11.0.
- sf\_slope For sfh= 5, this is the slope of the SFR after time sf\_trunc. Default value is 0.0.
- sfh\_filename Filename of the tabulated SFH file located in the data directory. If unset, the default sfh.dat is assumed. Only applies if sfh= 2.

### **Dust Parameters**

- dust\_tesc Stars younger than dust\_tesc are attenuated by both dust1 and dust2, while stars older are attenuated by dust2 only. Units are log(yrs). Default value is 7.0.
- dust1 Dust parameter describing the attenuation of young stellar light, i.e. where  $t \leq \text{dust\_tesc}$  (for details, see Conroy et al. 2009a). Specifically, it is the opacity at 5500Å. Default value is 0.0.
- dust2 Dust parameter describing the attenuation of old stellar light, i.e. where t >dust\_tesc (for details, see Conroy et al. 2009a). Specifically, it is the opacity at 5500Å. Default value is 0.0.
- frac\_nodust Fraction of starlight that is not attenuated by the diffuse dust component (i.e. that is not affected by dust2). Default value is 0.0.
- frac\_obrun Fraction of starlight that is not attenuated by the birth cloud dust component (i.e. that is not affected by dust1). Default value is 0.0.
- dust\_index Power-law index of the diffuse dust attenuation curve. Only used when dust\_type=0 or 4. Default value is -0.7.
- dust1\_index Power—law index of the birth cloud dust attenuation curve. Used for all dust types. Default value is -1.0.
- mwr The ratio of total to selective absorption which characterizes the MW extinction curve:  $R \equiv A_V/E(B-V)$ . Only used when dust\_type=1. Default value is 3.1.
- uvb Parameter characterizing the strength of the 2175Å extinction feature with respect to the standard Cardelli et al. determination for the MW. Only used when dust\_type=1. Default value is 1.0.
- wgp1 Integer specifying the optical depth in the Witt & Gordon 2000 (WG00) models. Values range from 1 18, corresponding to optical depths of 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.00, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50, 5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.0. Note that these optical depths are defined differently from the optical depths defined by the parameters dust1 and dust2. See WG00 for details.
- wgp2 Integer specifying the type of large–scale geometry and extinction curve. Values range from 1-6, corresponding to MW+dusty, MW+shell, MW+cloudy, SMC+dusty, SMC+shell, SMC+cloudy. MW= Milky Way extinction; SMC= Small Magellanic Cloud extinction. Dusty, shell, and cloudy specify the geometry and are described in WG00.
- wgp3 Integer specifying the local geometry for the WG00 dust models. A value of 1 corresponds to a homogeneous distribution, and a value of 2 corresponds to a clumpy distribution. See WG00 for details.
- duste\_gamma Parameter of the dust emission model. Specifies the relative contribution of dust heated at a radiation field strength of  $U_{\min}$  and dust heated at  $U_{\min} < U \le U_{\max}$ . Allowable range is 0.0-1.0. Default value is 0.01.
- duste\_umin Parameter of the dust emission model. Specifies the minimum radiation field strength in units of the MW value. Valid range is between 0.1 and 25.0. Default value is 1.0.
- duste\_qpah Parameter of the dust emission model. Specifies the grain size distribution through the fraction of grain mass in PAHs. This parameter has units of % and a valid range of 0.0 10.0. Default value is 3.5.
- fagn This parameter is the luminosity of the AGN expressed as a fraction of the stellar bolometric luminosity. *Default value is 0.0.*
- agn\_tau V-band optical depth of individual clouds in the AGN model of Nenkova et al. (2008). Default value is 10.0.

#### **Isochrone Parameters**

- redgb Modify weight given to the RGB. Only available with BaSTI isochrone set. Default value is 1.0.
- del1 Shift in  $\log(L_{\rm bol})$  of the TP-AGB isochrones. Note that the meaning of this parameter and the one below has changed to reflect the updated calibrations presented in Conroy & Gunn (2009). That is, these parameters now refer to a modification about the calibrations presented in that paper. Default value is 0.0.
- delt Shift in  $log(T_{eff})$  of the TP-AGB isochrones. Default value is 0.0.
- fcstar Fraction of stars that the Padova isochrones identify as Carbon stars that FSPS assigns to a Carbon star spectrum. Set this to 0.0 if for example the users wishes to turn all Carbon stars into regular M-type stars. Valid range is 0.0 1.0. Default value is 1.0.
- sbss Specific frequency of blue straggler stars. See Conroy et al. (2009) for details and a plausible range. Default value is 0.0.
- fbhb Fraction of horizontal branch stars that are blue. The blue HB stars are uniformly spread in  $log(T_{eff})$  to  $10^4$  K. See Conroy et al. 2009a for details and a plausible range. Default value is 0.0.
- pagb Weight given to the post–AGB phase. A value of 0.0 turns off post–AGB stars; a value of 1.0 implies that the Vassiliadis & Wood 1994 tracks are implemented as–is. *Default value is 1.0*.

## 2.2 Description of Fortran Routines

We now discuss the purpose and syntax of the routines in this package. §3.2.1 discusses the example routines provided in FSPS that demonstrate how many of these routines are used. Routines included in the src directory that are *not* discussed below are meant to only be accessed through other routines.

• COMPSP(write\_compsp,nzin,outfile,mass\_ssp,lbol\_ssp,spec\_ssp,pset,ocompsp)

This routine takes as input mass\_ssp, lbol\_ssp, and spec\_ssp, which are the outputs of the routine ssp\_gen.f90. The user must also provide the parameter set pset and filename for output in outfile, if output is desired (a blank string may be specified if no output is desired). There are four possible outputs, specified by write\_compsp: No output (0), output magnitudes (1), output spectra (2), output magnitudes and spectra (3), output spectral indices (4), output color-magnitude diagrams (5). The outputs are written to files with the output filename with ".mags", ".spec", ".indx", or ".cmd" appended.

A variety of output from this routine is saved in the ocompsp variable, which must be a structure as defined in sps\_vars.f90. Again, see the example routine below.

The nzin parameter sets the number of metallicity points passed. For standard, single metallicity calculations, set this value to one and simply pass the outputs from ssp\_gen.f90. However, if one wants to compute spectra for an evolving metallicity (i.e. when computing a tabulated SFH, the metallicity history may be specified), one needs to set this parameter to the number of metallicity elements available (in the default release this is 22). One then must take care to pass the metallicity—dependent ssp\_gen.f90 outputs. Currently the code only allows the specification of a metallicity history when passing tabulated SFH.

## • GETMAGS(zred, spec, mags)

The input is the redshift zred and spectrum spec. The output is an array of magnitudes mags for the redshifted spectrum.

#### • GETINDX(lambda, spec, indices)

This routine computes the spectral indices for the input spectrum spec with corresponding wavelength array lambda, returning the indices in an array indices. The indices array must be defined with an array length specified by the variable nindsps, which specifies the number of indices. The indices are defined in the file allindices.dat in the data directory.

## • PZ\_CONVOL(yield,zave,spec\_pz,lbol\_pz,mass\_pz)

This routine convolves the full array of metallicity-dependent SSPs with a closed-box metallicity distribution function (MDF). The yield is the only input. Outputs include the average metallicity (zave) and the spectra, lbol, and mass integrated over the MDF. The full metallicity-dependent SSPs must have been previously set up. An example of how to use this routine is provided in lesssimple.f90.

#### • SFHSTAT(pos,model,ssfr6,ssfr7,ssfr8,ave\_age)

This routine returns basic statistics for a given star formation history. The inputs are the parameter set (pos) and a single element output from the compsp routine (model). The outputs are the specific SFR (SSFR), averaged over 10<sup>6</sup>, 10<sup>7</sup>, and 10<sup>8</sup> yrs (ssfr6, ssfr7, ssfr8), and the mass-weighted average stellar age (ave\_age). An example of how to use this routine is provided in simple.f90.

### • SPS\_SETUP(zin)

This routine must be called at least once before running any routines. It reads in all of the isochrones and spectral libraries and stores them in a common block. If the user requires only one metallicity, then that metallicity can be specified as zin. The metallicity must be specified as an integer corresponding to the look-up table at the end of this manual. If the user wishes to read in all metallicities, then zin should be set to -1.

## • SSP\_GEN(pset,mass\_ssp,lbol\_ssp,spec\_ssp)

This routine takes as input the parameter set, pset, and outputs the time-dependent mass, mass\_ssp, bolometric luminosity, lbol\_ssp, and spectrum, spec\_ssp, of an SSP defined by the parameter set. Each of these input variables must be properly defined at the beginning of the main routine. See the example routines for guidance.

### • SMOOTHSPEC(lambda, spec, sigma, minl, maxl)

This routine broadens the input spectrum spec with corresponding wavelength array lambda by a velocity dispersion sigma measured in km/s. Note that the velocity broadening is only approximate in that we are ignoring the variation in  $d\lambda$  with  $\lambda$  within each integration step.

## • WRITE\_ISOCHRONE(outfile,zz)

This routine writes the isochrones for all ages at a single metallicity to a file with name outfile. The metallicity of the isochrone is specified via the variable zz in the internal integer metallicity units (see the Table at the end of this manual). At each age the isochrone is written for all of the magnitudes specified in the FILTER\_LIST file.

## 2.2.1. Example Routines

The code package contains several routines that highlight many of the features of FSPS. The routine simple.f90 demonstrates the basic syntax required to generate simple models. In addition, there is a less simple routine located in the src directory, called lesssimple.f90, that highlights some more advanced features of the code.

## 3. Description of IDL Routines

## • res = read\_indx(file)

This function takes as input an index file and reads it into a simple IDL structure. The index file must be created by the user (unlike the .spec and .mags files, which are automatically created in the compsp routine). The format is the age followed by all of the indices defined in the file INDEX\_LIST.

## • res = read\_mags(file)

This function takes as input the magnitude file (\*.mags) produced by compsp.f90. The output is an IDL structure with elements including the some of the magnitudes listed in FILTER\_LIST and computed by compsp.f90. Note that not all magnitudes computed and listed in the \*.mags file are contained in the resulting structure. This routine can be trivially modified to include other/all of the magnitudes computed.

### • res = read\_spec(file)

This function takes as input the spectra file (\*.spec) produced by compsp.f90. The output is an IDL structure with elements including the time-dependent spectrum computed by compsp.f90.

#### • res = read\_cmd(file)

This function takes as input the CMD file (\*.cmd) produced by compsp.f90. The output is an IDL structure with elements including the time-dependent spectrum computed by compsp.f90.

#### • res = read\_indx(file)

This function takes as input the index file (\*.indx) produced by compsp.f90. The output is an IDL structure with elements including the time-dependent spectrum computed by compsp.f90.

### • res = read\_fsps(file)

This function takes as input *any* file produced by compsp.f90. The function determines which type of file was passed based on the filename (\*.spec, \*.mags, etc).

### 4. How do I....

#### 4.1 add additional filters?

Adding additional filters is straightforward. There are three things the user must do: 1) modify the nbands parameter in the sps\_vars.f90 routine; 2) add the filter to the allfilters.dat file located in the data directory. Follow the format: there must be a line starting with a # sign, followed by two columns, the first being the wavelength in angstroms, the second being the total throughput. The filter can be of any resolution, and need not be properly normalized. 3) The user would be wise to add details of the filter to the FILTER\_LIST file located in the data directory, although this is not, strictly speaking, necessary for proper functioning of the code.

We would appreciate it if the user would email us if they add a filter so that we can include this filter in later releases (thereby saving others the trouble of adding filters).

## 5. Acknowledgements

FSPS has been in active development since 2009 and has been developed and tested by a core group of users over the years including Martin White, Ben Johnson, Nell Byler, Alexa Villaume, Joel Leja, and Demitri Muna. Special thanks in particular to Ben Johnson who has re-written entire routines and has extensively tested the outputs. I would also like to thank the many researchers who have made publicly available their codes and/or models, which made it possible to include many of the features in FSPS, including B. Aringer, Bruce Draine, Gary Ferland, Karl Gordon, Zeljko Ivezic, Ariane Lancon, Maia Nenkova, Linda Smith, the Padova, BaSTI, and Geneva stellar evolution groups, and the teams responsible for the MILES and BaSeL spectral libraries including Bob Kurucz, whose stellar atmosphere and spectral libraries underpine the BaSeL library and the C3K spectral library under development.

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Table 1 Lookup table of metallicity values depends on the isochrone set being used.

	*	variety varies dep				
zmet	$Z \left[ \log(Z/Z_{\odot}) \right]$	$Z \left[ \log(Z/Z_{\odot}) \right]$	$\log(Z/Z_{\odot})$	$Z \left[ \log(Z/Z_{\odot}) \right]$	$Z \left[ \log(Z/Z_{\odot}) \right]$	Z
	Padova	BaSTI	MIST	Geneva	PARSEC	BPASS
1	0.0002 (-1.98)	0.0003 (-1.82)	-2.50	0.0010 (-1.30)	0.0001 (-2.18)	0.0001
2	0.0003 (-1.80)	0.0006 (-1.52)	-2.00	$0.0040 \; (-0.70)$	0.0002(-1.88)	0.0010
3	0.0004 (-1.68)	0.0010 (-1.30)	-1.75	0.0080 (-0.40)	0.0005 (-1.48)	0.0020
4	0.0005 (-1.58)	0.0020 (-1.00)	-1.50	0.0200 (+0.00)	0.0010 (-1.18)	0.0030
5	0.0006 (-1.50)	0.0040 (-0.70)	-1.25	0.0400 (+0.30)	$0.0020 \; (-0.88)$	0.0040
6	0.0008 (-1.38)	0.0080 (-0.40)	-1.00		$0.0040 \; (-0.58)$	0.0060
7	0.0010 (-1.28)	0.0100 (-0.30)	-0.75		0.0060 (-0.40)	0.0080
8	0.0012 (-1.20)	0.0200 (+0.00)	-0.50		$0.0080 \; (-0.28)$	0.0100
9	0.0016 (-1.07)	0.0300 (+0.18)	-0.25		0.0100 (-0.18)	0.0140
10	0.0020 (-0.98)	$0.0400 \; (+0.30)$	+0.00		0.0140 (-0.04)	0.0200
11	0.0025 (-0.89)		+0.25		0.0170 (+0.05)	0.0300
12	0.0031 (-0.79)		+0.50		0.0200 (+0.12)	0.0400
13	0.0039 (-0.69)				0.0300 (+0.30)	
14	0.0049 (-0.59)				0.0400 (+0.42)	
15	0.0061 (-0.49)				0.0600 (+0.60)	
16	0.0077 (-0.39)					
17	0.0096 (-0.30)					
18	0.0120 (-0.20)					
19	0.0150 (-0.10)					
20	0.0190 (+0.00)					
21	0.0240 (+0.10)					
22	0.0300 (+0.20)					

Note. —  $Z_{\odot}=0.0190$  for Padova,  $Z_{\odot}=0.0200$  for BaSTI and Geneva,  $Z_{\odot}=0.0142$  for MIST,  $Z_{\odot}=0.0152$  for PARSEC, and  $Z_{\odot}=0.020$  for BPASS.

Table 2 Emission	n lines include	d in FSPS	Table 3 Emission	on lines included	in FSPS (cont.)
923.148	Ly 923	H 1 923.156A	5519.242	[Cl III] 5518	Cl 3 5518.00A
926.249	Ly 926	H 1 926.231A	5539.411	[Cl III] 5538	Cl 3 5538.00A
930.751	Ly 930	H 1 930.754A	5578.89	[O I] 5578	O 1 5577.00A
937.814	Ly 937	H 1 937.809A	5756.19	[N II] 5756	N 2 5755.00A
949.742	Ly- $\delta$ 949	H 1 949.749A	5877.249	He I 5877	He 1 5875.61A
972.517	Ly- $\gamma$ 972	H 1 972.543A	6302.046	[O I] 6302	O 1 6300.00A
1025.728	Ly- $\beta$ 1025	H 1 1025.73A	6313.81	[S III] 6314	S 3 6312.00A
1215.6701	Ly- $\alpha$ 1216	H 1 1215.68A	6365.535	[O I] 6365	O 1 6363.00A
1640.42	He II 1640	He 2 1640.00A	6549.86	[N II] 6549	N 2 6548.00A
1661.241	O III] 1661	O 3 1661.00A	6564.6	$H-\alpha$ 6563	H 1 6562.85A
1666.15	О III 1666	O 3 1666.00A	6585.27	[N II] 6585	N 2 6584.00A
1812.205	[Ne III] 1815	Ne 3 1815.00A	6679.995	He I 6680	He 1 6678.15A
1854.716	[Al III] 1855	Al 3 1855.00A	6718.294	[S II] 6717	S II 6716.00A
1862.7895	[Al III] 1863	Al 3 1863.00A	6732.673	[S II] 6732	S II 6731.00A
1906.68	[C III]	C 3 1907.00A	7067.138	He i 7065	He 1 7065.18A
1908.73	[С пі]	C 3 1910.00A	7137.77	[Ar III] 7138	Ar 3 7135.00A
2142.3	N II] 2141	N 2 2141.00A	7321.94	[O II] 7323	O II 7323.00A
2321.664	[O III] 2321	O 3 2321.00A	7332.21	[O II] 7332	O II 7332.00A
2324.21	C II] 2326	C 2 2324.00A	7334.17	[Ar IV] 7330	Ar 4 7331.00A
2325.4	С п 2326	C 2 2325.00A	7753.19	[Ar III] 7753	Ar 3 7751.00A
2326.11	С п 2326	C 2 2327.00A	8581.06	[Cl II] 8579	Cl 2 8579.00A
2327.64	С п 2326	C 2 2328.00A	8729.53	[C11] 8727	C 1 8727.00A
2328.83	С п 2326	C 2 2329.00A	9017.8	Pa 9015	H 1 9014.92A
2471.088	[О п] 2471	O II 2471.00A	9071.1	[S III] 9071	S 3 9069.00A
2661.146	[Al II] 2660	Al 2 2660.00A	9126.1	[Cl II] 9124	Cl 2 9124.00A
2669.951	[Al II] 2670	Al 2 2670.00A	9232.2	Pa 9229	H 1 9229.03A
2796.352	Mg II 2800	Mg 2 2795.53A	9533.2 9533.2	[S III] 9533	S 3 9532.00A
2803.53	Mg II 2800	Mg 2 2802.71A	9548.8	Pa 9546	H 1 9545.99A
3109.98	[Ar III] 3110	Ar 3 3109.00A	9852.96	[C <sub>I</sub> ] 9850	TOTL 9850.00A
3343.5	[Ne III] 3343	Ne 3 3343.00A	10052.6	Pa- $\delta 10050$	H 1 1.00494m
3722.75	[S III] 3723	S 3 3722.00A	10323.32	[S II] 10331	S 2 1.03300m
3727.1	[O II] 3726	O II 3726.00A		He I 10829	He 1 1.08299m
3729.86	[O II] 3729	O II 3729.00A	$10832.057 \\ 10833.306$	He I 10829	He 1 1.08303m
3798.987	Н 3798	H 1 3797.92A	10941.17	Pa- $\gamma$ 10939	H 1 1.09381m
3836.485	Н 3835	H 1 3835.40A	10941.17 $12570.21$	[Fe II] $1.26\mu \text{m}$	Fe 2 1.25668m
3869.86	[Ne III] 3870	Ne 3 3869.00A	12821.578	Pa- $\beta$ 12819	H 1 1.28181m
3889.75	Не і 3889	He 1 3888.63A	17366.885	Br 17363	H 1 1.73621m
3890.166	Н 3889	H 1 3889.07A	18179.2	Br 18175	H 1 1.73021m H 1 1.81741m
3968.59	[Ne III] 3968	Ne 3 3968.00A	18756.4	Pa- $\alpha$ 18752	H 1 1.87511m
3971.198	Н 3970	H 1 3970.09A	19450.89	$Br-\delta 19447$	H 1 1.94456m
4069.75	[S II] 4070	S II 4070.00A	21661.178	$Br-\gamma \ 21657$	H 1 2.16553m
4077.5	[S II] 4078	S II 4078.00A	26258.71	$\text{Br-}\beta \ 26254$	H 1 2.62515m
4102.892	$H-\delta$ 4102	H 1 4101.76A	30392.02	Pf 30386	H 1 3.03837m
4341.692	H- $\gamma$ 4340	H 1 4340.49A	32969.8	Pf- $\delta$ 32964	H 1 3.29609m
4364.435	[O III] 4364	TOTL 4363.00A	37405.76	$Pf-\gamma 37398$	
4472.735	Не і 4472	He 1 4471.47A		$Br-\alpha \ 40515$	H 1 3.73953m H 1 4.05116m
4622.864	[C I] 4621	C 1 4621.00A	40522.79		
4725.47	[Ne IV] 4720	Ne 4 4720.00A	46537.8	Pf- $\beta$ 46529 Hu- $\delta$ 51277	H 1 4.65250m
4862.71	H- $\beta$ 4861	H 1 4861.36A	51286.5	Hu- $\sigma$ 51277 Hu- $\gamma$ 59071	H 1 5.12725m
4960.295	[O III] 4960	O 3 4959.00A	59082.2 60852.74		H 1 5.90659m
5008.24	[O III] 5007	O 3 5007.00A	69852.74	[Ar II] $7\mu \text{m}$	Ar 2 6.98000m
5193.27	[Ar III] 5193	Ar 3 5192.00A	74599.0	Pf- $\alpha$ 74585	H 1 7.45781m
5201.705	[N I] 5200	N 1 5200.00A	75024.4	$ ext{Hu-}eta  ext{ } 75011  ext{ } [ ext{Ar III}]  ext{ } 9\mu ext{m}  ext{ }$	H 1 7.50043m
	. ,		89913.8	$[Ai III] g\mu$ III	Ar 3 9.00000m

Table 4	Emission	lines	included	in FSPS	(cont.)

		· EGDG ( , , )
Lable 4 Emissic	on lines included	in FSPS (cont.)
105105.0	[S IV] $10.5 \mu m$	S 4 10.5100m
123719.12	$\mathrm{Hu}\text{-}\alpha~12.4\mu\mathrm{m}$	H 1 12.3685m
128135.48	[Ne II] $12.8 \mu \mathrm{m}$	Ne 2 12.8100m
143678.0	$[Cl II] 14.4 \mu m$	Cl 2 14.4000m
155551.0	[Ne III] $15.5\mu\mathrm{m}$	Ne 3 15.5500m
187130.0	[S III] $18.7 \mu m$	S 3 18.6700m
218302.0	[Ar III] $22\mu\mathrm{m}$	Ar 3 21.8300m
328709.0	$[P II] 32 \mu m$	P 2 32.8700m
334800.0	$[S III] 33.5 \mu m$	S 3 33.4700m
348140.0	[Si II] $35\mu\mathrm{m}$	Si 2 34.8140m
360135.0	[Ne III] $36\mu\mathrm{m}$	Ne 3 36.0140m
518145.0	$[O III] 52 \mu m$	O 3 51.8000m
573300.0	$[\mathrm{N{\sc iii}}]~57\mu\mathrm{m}$	N 3 57.2100m
606420.0	$[P II] 60 \mu m$	P 2 60.6400m
631852.0	$[O I] 63 \mu m$	O 1 63.1700m
883564.0	$[O III] 88 \mu m$	O 3 88.3300m
1218000.0	$[\mathrm{N}\textsc{ii}]122\mu\mathrm{m}$	N 2 121.700m
1455350.0	$[O I] 145 \mu m$	O 1 145.530m
1576429.62	[C II] $157.7 \mu m$	C 2 157.600m
2053000.0	$[\mathrm{NII}]~205\mu\mathrm{m}$	N 2 205.400m
3703700.0	$[C I] 369 \mu m$	C 1 369.700m
6097000.0	$[C I] 610 \mu m$	C 1 609.200m