

# PyNMRSTAR

A Python module for reading, writing, and manipulating NMR-STAR files.

build passing

Python versions supported: 2.6, 2.7, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, and 3.6

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## Command line tools

We have developed several command line tools to ease certain common actions

performed against NMR-STAR files. If you are looking for information on those

please go [here](#).

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## PyNMRSTAR Overview

This module provides Entry, Saveframe, and Loop objects. Use python's built in help function for documentation.

There are eight module variables you can set to control our behavior.

- Setting `pynmrstar.VERBOSE` to True will print some of what is

going on to  
the terminal.

- Setting `pynmrstar.RAISE_PARSE_WARNINGS` to `True` will raise an exception if the parser encounters something problematic. Normally warnings are suppressed.
- In addition, if you want to ignore some parse warnings but allow the rest, you can specify warnings to ignore by adding the warning to ignore to the “`WARNINGS_TO_IGNORE`” list.

Here are descriptions of the parse warnings that can be suppressed:

- “tag-only-loop”: A loop with no data was found.
- “empty-loop”: A loop with no tags or values was found.
- “tag-not-in-schema”: A tag was found in the entry that was not present in the schema.
- “invalid-null-value”: A tag for which the schema disallows null values had a null value.
- “bad-multiline”: A tag with an improper multi-line value was found. Multiline values should look like this:

```
;
The multi-line
value here.
;
```

but the tag looked like this:

```
; The multi-line
value here.
;
```

- Setting `pynmrstar.SKIP_EMPTY_LOOPS` to `True` will suppress the printing of empty loops when calling **str** methods.
- Adding key->value pairs to `pynmrstar.STR_CONVERSION_DICT` will automatically convert tags whose value matches “key” to the string “value” when printing. This allows you to set the default conversion value for Booleans or other objects.
- Setting `pynmrstar.ALLOW_V2_ENTRIES` will allow parsing of NMR-STAR version 2.1 entries. Most other methods will not operate correctly on parsed 2.1 entries. This is only to allow you parse and access the data in

these entries - nothing else. Only set this if you have a really good reason to. Attempting to print a 2.1 entry will 'work' but tags that were after loops will be moved to before loops.

- Setting `pynmrstar.DONT_SHOW_COMMENTS` to `True` will suppress the printing of comments before saveframes.
- Setting `pynmrstar.CONVERT_DATATYPES` to `True` will automatically convert the data loaded from the file into the corresponding python type as determined by loading the standard BMRB schema. This would mean that all floats will be represented as `decimal.Decimal` objects, all integers will be python `int` objects, strings and vars will remain strings, and dates will become `datetime.date` objects. When printing `str()` is called on all objects. Other than converting uppercase "E"s in scientific notation floats to lowercase "e"s this should not cause any change in the way re-printed NMR-STAR objects are displayed.

Some errors will be detected and exceptions raised, but this does not implement a full validator (at least at present).

Call directly (rather than importing) to run a self-test.

# Variables

- `ALLOW_V2_ENTRIES` : False
- `CONVERT_DATATYPES` : False
- `DONT_SHOW_COMMENTS` : False
- `RAISE_PARSE_WARNINGS` : False
- `SKIP_EMPTY_LOOPS` : False
- `STR_CONVERSION_DICT` : {None: '.'}
- `VERBOSE` : False
- `WARNINGS_TO_IGNORE` : []

# Functions

**def** `clean_value(value)`

Automatically quotes the value in the appropriate way. Don't quote values you send to this method or they will show up in another set of quotes as part of the actual data. E.g.:

`clean_value("e. coli")` returns `"e. coli"`

while

`clean_value("e. coli")` returns `"e. coli"`

This will automatically be called on all values when you use a `str()` method (so don't call it before inserting values into tags or loops).

Be mindful of the value of `STR_CONVERSION_DICT` as it will effect the way the value is converted to a string.

## **def**

```
delete_empty_saveframes(entry_object,  
tags_to_ignore=['sf_category',  
'sf_framecode'], allowed_null_values=  
['.', '?', None])
```

This method will delete all empty saveframes in an entry (the loops in the saveframe must also be empty for the saveframe to be deleted). “Empty” means no values in tags, not no tags present.

## **def diff(entry1, entry2)**

Prints the differences between two entries. Non-equal entries will always be detected, but specific differences detected depends on order of entries.

## **def enable\_nef\_defaults()**

Sets the module variables such that our behavior matches the NEF standard. Specifically, suppress printing empty loops by default and convert `True` -> “true” and `False` -> “false” when printing.

```
def enable_nmrstar_defaults()
```

Sets the module variables such that our behavior matches the BMRB standard (NMR-STAR). This is the default behavior of this module. This method only exists to revert after calling enable\_nef\_defaults().

```
def validate(entry_to_validate,  
schema=None)
```

Prints a validation report of an entry.

## Classes

```
class Entry()
```

An OO representation of a BMRB entry. You can initialize this object several ways; (e.g. from a file, from the official database, from scratch) see the class methods below.

Methods:

```
def __init__()
```

You should not directly instantiate an Entry using this method. Instead use the class methods:"

Entry.from\_database()

Entry.from\_file()

Entry.from\_string()

Entry.from\_scratch()

Entry.from\_json()

**def add\_saveframe(frame)**

Add a saveframe to the entry.

**def compare(other)**

Returns the differences between two entries as a list.

Otherwise returns 1 if different and 0 if equal. Non-equal entries will always be detected, but specific differences detected depends on order of entries.

**def frame\_dict()**

Returns a dictionary of saveframe name -> saveframe object

**def from\_database(cls, entry\_num)**

Create an entry corresponding to the most up to date entry on the public BMRB server. (Requires ability to initiate outbound HTTP connections.)

**def from\_file(cls, the\_file)**

Create an entry by loading in a file. If the\_file starts with http://, https://, or ftp:// then we will use those protocols to attempt to open the file.



**def from\_json(cls, json\_dict)**

Create an entry from JSON (serialized or unserialized JSON).

**def from\_scratch(cls, entry\_id)**

Create an empty entry that you can programatically add to.

You must pass a value corresponding to the Entry ID.

(The unique identifier “xxx” from “data\_xxx”.)

**def from\_string(cls, the\_string)**

Create an entry by parsing a string.

**def get\_json(serialize=True)**

Returns the entry in JSON format. If serialize is set to

False a dictionary representation of the entry that is

serializeable is returned.

**def get\_loops\_by\_category(value)**

Allows fetching loops by category.

**def get\_saveframe\_by\_name(frame)**

Allows fetching a saveframe by name.

**def get\_saveframes\_by\_category(value)**

Allows fetching saveframes by category.

**def**

**get\_saveframes\_by\_tag\_and\_value(tag\_name, value)**

Allows fetching saveframe(s) by tag and tag value.

**def get\_tag(tag, whole\_tag=False)**

Given a tag (E.g. `_Assigned_chem_shift_list.Data_file_name`) return a list of all values for that tag. Specify `whole_tag=True` and the `[tag_name, tag_value (,tag_linenumbers)]` pair will be returned.

**def get\_tags(tags)**

Given a list of tags, get all of the tags and return the results in a dictionary.

**def nef\_string()**

Returns a string representation of the entry in NEF.

**def normalize(schema=None)**

Sorts saveframes, loops, and tags according to the schema provided (or BMRB default if none provided) and according to the assigned ID.

**def print\_tree()**

Prints a summary, tree style, of the frames and loops in the entry.

```
def rename_saveframe(original_name,  
new_name)
```

Renames a saveframe and updates all pointers to that saveframe in the entry with the new name.

```
def validate(validate_schema=True,  
schema=None, validate_star=True)
```

Validate an entry in a variety of ways. Returns a list of errors found. 0-length list indicates no errors found. By default all validation modes are enabled.

`validate_schema` - Determines if the entry is validated against the NMR-STAR schema. You can pass your own custom schema if desired, otherwise the schema will be fetched from the BMRB servers.

`validate_star` - Determines if the STAR syntax checks are ran.

```
def write_to_file(file_name,  
format_="nmrstar")
```

Writes the entry to the specified file in NMR-STAR format.

Optionally specify `format_=json` to write to the file in JSON format.

## **class** `Saveframe()`

A saveframe object. Create using the class methods, see below.

Methods:

### **def** `__init__()`

Don't use this directly. Use the class methods to construct:

`Saveframe.from_scratch()`

`Saveframe.from_string()`

`Saveframe.from_template()`

`Saveframe.from_file()`

and `Saveframe.from_json()`

### **def** `add_loop(loop_to_add)`

Add a loop to the saveframe loops.

### **def** `add_tag(name, value, linenum=None, update=False)`

Add a tag to the tag list. Does a bit of validation and parsing. Set update to true to update a tag if it exists rather than raise an exception.

### **def** `add_tags(tag_list, update=False)`

Adds multiple tags to the list. Input should be a list of

tuples that are either [key, value] or [key]. In the latter case the value will be set to “.”. Set update to true to update a tag if it exists rather than raise an exception.

## **def compare(other)**

Returns the differences between two saveframes as a list. Non-equal saveframes will always be detected, but specific differences detected depends on order of saveframes.

## **def delete\_tag(tag)**

Deletes a tag from the saveframe based on tag name.

## **def from\_file(cls, the\_file, csv=False)**

Create a saveframe by loading in a file. Specify csv=True is the file is a CSV file. If the\_file starts with http://, https://, or ftp:// then we will use those protocols to attempt to open the file.

## **def from\_json(cls, json\_dict)**

Create a saveframe from JSON (serialized or unserialized JSON).

## **def from\_scratch(cls, sf\_name, tag\_prefix=None, source=from\_scratch())**

Create an empty saveframe that you can programatically add to. You may also pass the tag prefix as the second argument. If

you do not pass the tag prefix it will be set the first time you add a tag.

```
def from_string(cls, the_string,  
csv=False)
```

Create a saveframe by parsing a string. Specify `csv=True` is the string is in CSV format and not NMR-STAR format.

```
def from_template(cls, category,  
name=None, all_tags=False, schema=None)
```

Create a saveframe that has all of the tags and loops from the schema present. No values will be assigned. Specify the category when calling this method. Optionally also provide the name of the saveframe as the 'name' argument.

The optional argument 'all\_tags' forces all tags to be included rather than just the mandatory tags.

```
def get_data_as_csv(header=True,  
show_category=True)
```

Return the data contained in the loops, properly CSVd, as a string. Set header to False omit the header. Set show\_category to False to omit the loop category from the headers.

```
def get_json(serialize=True)
```

Returns the saveframe in JSON format. If serialize is set to

False a dictionary representation of the saveframe that is serializeable is returned.

```
def get_loop_by_category(name)
```

Return a loop based on the loop name (category).

```
def get_tag(query, whole_tag=False)
```

Allows fetching the value of a tag by tag name. Specify whole\_tag=True and the [tag\_name, tag\_value] pair will be returned.

```
def loop_dict()
```

Returns a hash of loop category -> loop.

```
def loop_iterator()
```

Returns an iterator for saveframe loops.

```
def print_tree()
```

Prints a summary, tree style, of the loops in the saveframe.

```
def set_tag_prefix(tag_prefix)
```

Set the tag prefix for this saveframe.

```
def sort_tags(schema=None)
```

Sort the tags so they are in the same order as a BMRB schema. Will automatically use the standard schema if none is provided.

```
def tag_iterator()
```

Returns an iterator for saveframe tags.

```
def validate(validate_schema=True,  
schema=None, validate_star=True)
```

Validate a saveframe in a variety of ways. Returns a list of errors found. 0-length list indicates no errors found. By default all validation modes are enabled.

`validate_schema` - Determines if the entry is validated against the NMR-STAR schema. You can pass your own custom schema if desired, otherwise the schema will be fetched from the BMRB servers.

`validate_star` - Determines if the STAR syntax checks are ran.

```
def write_to_file(file_name,  
format_="nmrstar")
```

Writes the saveframe to the specified file in NMR-STAR format.

Optionally specify `format_=json` to write to the file in JSON format.



## **class** `Schema()`

A BMRB schema. Used to validate STAR files.

Methods:

### **def** `__init__(schema_file=None)`

Initialize a BMRB schema. With no arguments the most up-to-date schema will be fetched from the BMRB FTP site. Otherwise pass a URL or a file to load a schema from using the `schema_file` keyword argument.

### **def** `add_tag(tag, tag_type, null_allowed, sf_category, loop_flag, after=None)`

Adds the specified tag to the tag dictionary. You must provide:

1. The full tag as such:  
“\_Entry\_interview.Sf\_category”
2. The tag type which is one of the following:  
“INTEGER”  
“FLOAT”  
“CHAR(len)”  
“VARCHAR(len)”  
“TEXT”  
“DATETIME year to day”
3. A python True/False that indicates whether null values are allowed.

4. The sf\_category of the parent saveframe.
5. A True/False value which indicates if this tag is a loop tag.
6. Optional: The tag to order this tag behind when normalizing saveframes.

```
def convert_tag(tag, value,  
linenum=None)
```

Converts the provided tag from string to the appropriate type as specified in this schema.

```
def string_representation(search=None)
```

Prints all the tags in the schema if search is not specified and prints the tags that contain the search string if it is.

```
def val_type(tag, value, category=None,  
linenum=None)
```

Validates that a tag matches the type it should have according to this schema.

```
class Loop()
```

A BMRB loop object. Create using the class methods, see below.

Methods:

```
def __init__()
```

You should not directly instantiate a Loop using this method.

Instead use the class methods:

`Loop.from_scratch()`

`Loop.from_string()`

`Loop.from_template()`

`Loop.from_file()`

`Loop.from_json()`

```
def add_column(name,  
ignore_duplicates=False)
```

Add a column to the column list. Does a bit of validation and parsing. Set `ignore_duplicates` to true to ignore attempts to add the same tag more than once rather than raise an exception.

You can also pass a list of column names to add more than one column at a time.

Note that adding a column only adds a new tag to the list of tags present in this loop. It does not automatically add a column of None values to the data array if the loop is already populated with data.

```
def add_data(the_list, rearrange=False)
```

Add a list to the data field. Items in list can be any type, they will be converted to string and formatted correctly. The

list must have the same cardinality as the column names or you must set the rearrange variable to true and have already set all the columns in the loop. Rearrange will break a longer list into rows based on the number of columns.

```
def add_data_by_column(column_id, value)
```

Add data to the loop one element at a time, based on column.

Useful when adding data from SANS parsers.

```
def clear_data()
```

Erases all data in this loop. Does not erase the data columns or loop category.

```
def compare(other)
```

Returns the differences between two loops as a list. Order of loops being compared does not make a difference on the specific errors detected.

```
def delete_data_by_tag_value(tag, value,  
index_tag=None)
```

Deletes all rows which contain the provided value in the provided column. If index\_tag is provided, that column is renumbered starting with 1. Returns the deleted rows.

```
def filter(tag_list,  
ignore_missing_tags=False)
```

Returns a new loop containing only the specified tags.

Specify `ignore_missing_tags=True` to bypass missing tags rather than raising an error.

```
def from_file(cls, the_file, csv=False)
```

Create a saveframe by loading in a file. Specify `csv=True` if the file is a CSV file. If the `_file` starts with `http://`, `https://`, or `ftp://` then we will use those protocols to attempt to open the file.

```
def from_json(cls, json_dict)
```

Create a loop from JSON (serialized or unserialized JSON).

```
def from_scratch(cls, category=None,  
source=from_scratch())
```

Create an empty saveframe that you can programatically add to. You may also pass the tag prefix as the second argument. If you do not pass the tag prefix it will be set the first time you add a tag.

```
def from_string(cls, the_string,  
csv=False)
```

Create a saveframe by parsing a string. Specify `csv=True` if the string is in CSV format and not NMR-STAR format.

```
def from_template(cls, tag_prefix,  
all_tags=False, schema=None)
```

Create a loop that has all of the tags from the schema present. No values will be assigned. Specify the tag prefix of the loop.

The optional argument `all_tags` forces all tags to be included rather than just the mandatory tags.

```
def get_columns()
```

Return the columns for this entry with the category included. Throws `ValueError` if the category was never set.

```
def get_data_as_csv(header=True,  
show_category=True)
```

Return the data contained in the loops, properly CSVd, as a string. Set `header` to `False` to omit the header. Set `show_category` to `false` to omit the loop category from the headers.

```
def get_data_by_tag(tags=None)
```

Identical to `get_tag` but wraps the results in a list even if only fetching one tag. Primarily exists for legacy code.

```
def get_json(serialize=True)
```

Returns the loop in JSON format. If `serialize` is set to

False a dictionary representation of the loop that is serializeable is returned.

**def get\_tag(tags=None, whole\_tag=False)**

Provided a tag name (or a list of tag names), or ordinals corresponding to columns, return the selected tags by row as a list of lists.

If whole\_tag=True return the full tag name along with the tag value, or if dict\_result=True, as the tag key.

If dict\_result=True, return the tags as a list of dictionaries in which the tag value points to the tag."""

**def print\_tree()**

Prints a summary, tree style, of the loop.

**def renumber\_rows(index\_tag, start\_value=1, maintain\_ordering=False)**

Renumber a given column incrementally. Set start\_value to initial value if 1 is not acceptable. Set maintain\_ordering to preserve sequence with offset.

E.g. 2,3,3,5 would become 1,2,2,4.

**def set\_category(category)**

Set the category of the loop. Useful if you didn't know the category at loop creation time.

**def `sort_rows(tags, key=None)`**

Sort the data in the rows by their values for a given column or columns. Specify the columns using their names or ordinals. Accepts a list or an int/float. By default we will sort numerically. If that fails we do a string sort. Supply a function as key and we will order the elements based on the keys it provides. See the help for `sorted()` for more details. If you provide multiple columns to sort by, they are interpreted as increasing order of sort priority.

**def `sort_tags(schema=None)`**

Rearranges the columns and data in the loop to match the order from the schema. Uses the BMRB schema unless one is provided.

**def `validate(validate_schema=True, schema=None, validate_star=True, category=None)`**

Validate a loop in a variety of ways. Returns a list of errors found. 0-length list indicates no errors found. By default all validation modes are enabled.

`validate_schema` - Determines if the entry is validated against the NMR-STAR schema. You can pass your own custom schema if desired,



otherwise the schema will be fetched from the BMRB servers.

`validate_star` - Determines if the STAR syntax checks are ran.