
CanSen Documentation

Release 1.1.0

Bryan W. Weber

February 10, 2015

CONTENTS

1	Contents	3
1.1	CanSen Installation Guide	3
1.2	Usage	4
1.3	Supported Input Keywords	6
1.4	Internal Combustion Engine Model	12
1.5	Postprocessing	13
1.6	Code Documentation	15
2	Notice	21
3	License	23
4	Indices and tables	25
	Python Module Index	27
	Index	29

[CanSen](#) is a Python script that provides a SENKIN-like wrapper around the open-source [Cantera](#) package. The motivation for this project is to ease the transition from SENKIN to using Cantera. Many researchers have knowledge of how to build SENKIN input files, and many may have SENKIN input files available that they use. CanSen enables the use of SENKIN-formatted input files with Cantera.

CanSen can be used with any version of Python ≥ 2.6 .

CanSen is hosted at [GitHub](#), if you are interested in the source code and development. Please report any bugs there.

CONTENTS

1.1 CanSen Installation Guide

CanSen can be installed on any platform that supports Python and Cantera. This guide contains instructions for Windows and Ubuntu 12.04.

CanSen has several dependencies, including:

- [Cantera](#)
- [NumPy](#)
- [PyTables](#)

1.1.1 Windows

Python can be downloaded and installed from the [Python.org](#) page. Installation instructions for Cantera on Windows can be found on the [Google code](#) page. Make sure to download the correct version for your Python and 32- or 64-bit Windows, depending on which version your OS is. If NumPy is not already installed, download the proper version from the [Windows Binaries](#) page. From the same page, download the installer for [PyTables](#) and its dependency [numexpr](#).

Then, download the most recent release of CanSen from [GitHub](#). Unzip the zip file, and you're ready to go!

Alternatively, you can use Git to download the developer version. **WARNING:** The developer version of CanSen is not guaranteed to be working at any given commit. Proceed with caution.:

```
git clone git://github.com/bryanweber/CanSen.git
```

will download the repository into a folder called CanSen.

1.1.2 Ubuntu

These instructions are for Ubuntu 12.04, but should work with only slight changes for most major releases of Linux. Optionally, download Python 3 from the apt repositories. At the same time, it is good to download some other dependencies:

```
sudo apt-get install python3 python3-dev libhdf5-serial-dev
```

Then, install distribute and pip:

```
wget https://bitbucket.org/pypa/setuptools/raw/bootstrap/ez_setup.py \
-O - | sudo python3.2
sudo easy_install-3.2 pip
```

or

```
wget https://bitbucket.org/pypa/setuptools/raw/bootstrap/ez_setup.py \
-O - | sudo python
sudo easy_install pip
```

Finally, with `pip` installed, install NumPy, Cython, numexpr, and finally, PyTables:

```
sudo pip-3.2 install numpy cython numexpr
sudo pip-3.2 install pytables
```

or

```
sudo pip install numpy cython numexpr
pip install pytables
```

Instructions for more complicated cases can be found on the [PyTables documentation](#).

Compilation/installation instructions for Cantera can be found in the Cantera [documentation](#).

Finally, get the most recent stable release of CanSen from [GitHub](#). Untar the tarball, and you're ready to go!

```
tar -xzf CanSen-X.Y.Z.tar.gz
```

Alternatively, you can use Git to download the developer version. **WARNING:** The developer version of CanSen is not guaranteed to be working at any given commit. Proceed with caution.:

```
git clone git://github.com/bryanweber/CanSen.git
```

will download the repository into a folder called CanSen.

1.2 Usage

The following are instructions for usage of CanSen.

1.2.1 Windows

CanSen can be run from the command line (`cmd.exe`) or from within [IPython](#). From the command line, change into the directory with the CanSen script, and run:

```
py cansen.py [options]
```

In IPython, type:

```
In [1]: %run cansen.py [options]
```

1.2.2 Ubuntu

CanSen can be run either as an executable, or as a script with Python (2 or 3) or [IPython](#). To run as an executable, change to the directory where CanSen is located, add the execute bit to `cansen.py`, and run:

```
chmod +x cansen.py
./cansen.py [options]
```

To run as a script, change to the directory where CanSen is located and:


```
python3 cansen.py [options]
```

or

```
python cansen.py [options]
```

Or, in IPython:

```
In [1]: %run cansen.py [options]
```

1.2.3 Options

All of the previous commands have shown [options] to indicate where command line options should be specified. The following options are available, and can also be seen by using the `-h` or `--help` options:

```
-i:
    Specify the simulation input file in SENKIN format. Required.
-o:
    Specify the text output file. Optional, default: ``output.out``
-x:
    Specify the binary save output file. Optional, default:
    ``save.hdf``
-c:
    Specify the chemistry input file, in either CHEMKIN, Cantera
    CTI or CTML format. Optional, default: ``chem.xml``
-d:
    Specify the thermodynamic database. Optional if the
    thermodynamic database is specified in the chemistry input
    file. Otherwise, required.
--convert:
    Convert the input mechanism to CTI format and quit. If
    ``--convert`` is specified, the SENKIN input file is optional.
-m, --multi:
    Run multiple cases from the input file. Optional. If ``-m`` is
    used, must specify number of processors to be used (e.g.,
    ``-m 4``). If ``--multi`` is specified, CanSen uses the available
    number of processors by default.
-h, --help:
    Print this help message and quit.
```

1.2.4 Multiple Inputs

While the default operation of CanSen reads and runs a single input case, using the `-m` or `--multi` option enables multiple cases to be run independently (and in parallel). In this mode, normal output is omitted, and only the calculated ignition delay times (along with initial pressure, temperature, and equivalence ratio) are printed to the output file. In addition, no binary save output file is created.

Input files should be formatted normally for each case, with an `END` keyword indicating the end of one case. For example:

```
CONV
TEMP 1600.0
PRES 1.0
TIME 1.0E1
EQUI 1.0
FUEL CH4 1.0
END
```

```
OXID O2 0.21
OXID N2 0.79
CPROD CO2
CPROD H2O
CPROD N2
END
```

```
CONP
TEMP 1000.0
PRES 10.0
TIME 1.0E1
EQUI 0.5
FUEL CH4 1.0
OXID O2 0.21
OXID N2 0.79
CPROD CO2
CPROD H2O
CPROD N2
END
```

1.3 Supported Input Keywords

The following is a list of the currently supported keywords in the input file. Keywords that include “CanSen specific keyword” should be placed after the ‘END’ keyword to maintain SENKIN compatibility, although CanSen has no preference for the order.

```
ADD ATLS ATOL BORE CMPR CONP CONT CONV COTV CPROD
CRAD DEGO DELT DTIGN DTSV END EQUI FUEL ICEN IGNBREAK
LOLR OXID PRES REAC RODL RPM RTLS RTOL SENS STPT
STROKE TEMP TIME TLIM TPRO TTIM VOL VOLC VOLD VPRO
VTIM
```

ADD: Mole fractions of species that should be included in the initial composition but excluded from the calculation of the equivalence ratio. Only valid when the equivalence ratio option is used to specify the composition. See [CPROD](#), [EQUI](#), [FUEL](#), [OXID](#), [REAC](#).

Example:

```
ADD Ar 0.1
```

ATLS: Absolute tolerance of the accuracy of the sensitivity coefficients. Optional keyword, default: 1E-06

Example:

```
ATLS 1E-06
```

ATOL: Absolute tolerance of the accuracy of the solution. Should be set smaller than the smallest meaningful species mass fraction. Optional keyword, default: 1E-20

Example:

ATOL 1E-20

BORE: CanSen specific keyword. Bore diameter of the engine cylinder. Units: cm.

Example:

BORE 1.0

CMPR: Specify the compression ratio for the internal combustion engine model. Defined as the maximum total volume in the cylinder divided by the clearance volume. See the [documentation](#). See also: [VOLC](#), [VOLD](#).

Example:

CMPR 10.0

CONP: Solve a constant pressure reactor with the energy equation on. One of [CONP](#), [CONT](#), [CONV](#), [COTV](#), [ICEN](#), [TPRO](#), [TTIM](#), [VPRO](#), or [VTIM](#) must be specified.

CONT: Solve a constant pressure reactor with the energy equation off. One of [CONP](#), [CONT](#), [CONV](#), [COTV](#), [ICEN](#), [TPRO](#), [TTIM](#), [VPRO](#), or [VTIM](#) must be specified.

CONV: Solve a constant volume reactor with the energy equation on. One of [CONP](#), [CONT](#), [CONV](#), [COTV](#), [ICEN](#), [TPRO](#), [TTIM](#), [VPRO](#), or [VTIM](#) must be specified.

COTV: Solve a constant volume reactor with the energy equation off. One of [CONP](#), [CONT](#), [CONV](#), [COTV](#), [ICEN](#), [TPRO](#), [TTIM](#), [VPRO](#), or [VTIM](#) must be specified.

CPROD: Complete products of stoichiometric combustion for the given fuel and oxidizer compositions. Only valid when the equivalence ratio option is used to specify the composition. All of the elements specified in the [FUEL](#) and [OXID](#) must be included in the set of species specified in [CPROD](#). See [ADD](#), [EQUI](#), [FUEL](#), [OXID](#), [REAC](#).

Example:

CPROD H2O
CPROD CO2

CRAD: CanSen specific keyword. Specify the crank radius. Units: cm.

Example:

CRAD 3.5

DEG0: Specify the initial crank angle of the simulation. Units: degrees. Default: 180 deg.

Example:

DEG0 180

DELT: Time interval for printing to the screen and the text output file. Optional keyword, default: `TIME/100`. Units: seconds.

Example:

```
DELT 1E-03
```

DTIGN: Temperature threshold used to determine the ignition delay. Ignition temperature is the initial temperature `TEMP` plus this value. Will be ignored for cases with the energy equation turned off. If both `DTIGN` and `TLIM` are specified, `TLIM` will override `DTIGN`. See `TLIM`. Optional keyword, default: 400. Units: K.

Example:

```
DTIGN 400
```

DTSV: Time interval for saving to the binary save file. Values are stored at the nearest time step to the save time interval. Optional keyword, by default, all time points are saved to the binary save file. Units: seconds.

Example:

```
DTSV 1E-05
```

END: Signifies the end of the input file in SENKIN. It is included in CanSen for compatibility with SENKIN input files, but does not do anything. Any CanSen specific keywords can be placed after `END` and the same input file can be used with SENKIN with no changes.

EQUI: Equivalence ratio desired for the initial mixture. If `EQUI` is specified, all of `CPROD`, `FUEL`, and `OXID` also must be specified, and `ADD` can be optionally specified. If `EQUI` is not specified, the reactants must be specified with `REAC`. See `ADD`, `CPROD`, `FUEL`, `OXID`, `REAC`.

Example:

```
EQUI 1.0
```

FUEL: Relative mole fractions of components in the fuel mixture for equivalence ratio calculations. The sum of the fuel mole fractions should be 1.0; if they are not, they will be normalized and a warning message will be printed. If `EQUI` is specified, `FUEL` must be specified. See `ADD`, `CPROD`, `EQUI`, `OXID`, `REAC`.

Example:

```
FUEL CH4 1.0
```

ICEN: Specify the internal combustion engine model be used. See *the documentation for the model* for information on the derivation. See also `BORE`, `CMPR`, `CRAD`, `DEG0`, `LOLR`, `RODL`, `RPM`, `STROKE`, `VOLD`, and `VOLC`. One of `CONP`, `CONT`, `CONV`, `COTV`, `ICEN`, `TPRO`, `TTIM`, `VPRO`, or `VTIM` must be specified.

IGNBREAK: CanSen specific keyword. Indicates that the simulation should exit when ignition is encountered, instead of continuing until the end time `TIME` is reached. The criterion for ignition is specified by `DTIGN` or `TLIM`. Optional keyword.

LOLR: Specify the ratio of the connecting rod length, ℓ , to the crank radius, a . See `RODL`, `CRAD`.

Example:

```
LOLR 3.5
```

OXID: Relative mole fractions of components in the oxidizer mixture for equivalence ratio calculations. The sum of the oxidizer mole fractions should be 1.0; if they are not, they will be normalized and a warning message will be printed. If `EQUI` is specified, `OXID` must be specified. See `ADD`, `CPROD`, `EQUI`, `FUEL`, `REAC`.

Example:

```
OXID O2 1.0
OXID N2 3.76
```

PRES: Initial reactor pressure. Required keyword. Units: atmospheres.

Example:

```
PRES 1.0
```

REAC: Initial mole fraction of a reactant gas in the reactor. Required keyword if `EQUI` is not specified; however, only one of `REAC` or `EQUI` may be specified. If the mole fractions of the components given on `REAC` lines do not sum to 1.0, they will be normalized and a warning message will be printed.

Example:

```
REAC CH4 1.0
REAC O2 1.0
REAC N2 3.76
```

RODL: CanSen specific keyword. Specify the connecting rod length, ℓ . Units: cm.

Example:

```
RODL 5.0
```

RPM: Specify the rotation rate of the engine in revolutions per minute.

Example:

```
RPM 1500
```

RTLS: Relative tolerance of the accuracy of the sensitivity coefficients. Optional keyword, default: 1E-04

Example:

RTLS 1E-04

RTOL: Relative tolerance of the accuracy of the solution. Can be interpreted roughly as the number of significant digits expected in the solution. Optional keyword, default: 1E-08

Example:

RTOL 1E-08

SENS: Calculate sensitivity coefficients for the solution variables. The sensitivity coefficients are stored in a 2-D array, with dimensions of (number of solution variables, number of reactions). For `CONV`, `COTV`, `VPRO` and `VTIM` cases, the order of the sensitivity coefficients (i.e. the rows) is:

- 0 - mass
- 1 - volume
- 2 - temperature
- 3+ mass fractions of the species

For `CONP`, `CONT`, `TPRO`, and `TTIM` cases, the order of the sensitivity coefficients (i.e. the rows) is

- 0 - mass
 - 1 - temperature
 - 2+ - mass fractions of the species
-

STPT: Maximum internal time step for the solver. Optional keyword. If any of `DELT`, `DTSV`, or `STPT` are specified, the minimum of these is used as the maximum internal time step. Otherwise, the default maximum time step is the end time `TIME`/100.

Example:

STPT 1E-5

STROKE: CanSen specific keyword. Specify the stroke length of the engine, *L*. Units: cm.

Example:

STROKE 7.0

TEMP: Initial reactor temperature. Required keyword. Units: K.

Example:

TEMP 800

TIME: End time for the integration. Unless, `IGNBREAK` is specified and its condition satisfied, the solver will integrate until `TIME` is reached. Required keyword. Units: seconds.

Example:

TIME 1E-03

TLIM: Ignition temperature. Ignition is considered to have occurred when this temperature is exceeded. If both DTIGN and TLIM are specified, TLIM overrides DTIGN. Optional keyword, default: TEMP + 400. Units: K.

Example:

```
TLIM 1200
```

TPRO: Warning: TPRO is broken in CanSen v1.1 due to incompatibilities with Cantera 2.1. Specify the reactor temperature as a function of time. Multiple invocations of this keyword build a profile of the temperature over the given times. This profile is linearly interpolated to set the reactor temperature at any solver time step. When the end time of the profile is exceeded, the temperature remains constant at the last specified value. One of CONP, CONT, CONV, COTV, ICEN, TPRO, TTIM, VPRO, or VTIM must be specified. Units: seconds, K.

Example:

```
TPRO 0.0 800
TPRO 0.1 900
```

TTIM: Warning: TTIM is broken in CanSen v1.1 due to incompatibilities with Cantera 2.1. Specify the reactor temperature as a user-provided function of time. To use this keyword, the user must edit the TemperatureFunctionTime class in the user_routines file. Any parameters to be read from external files should be loaded in the __init__ method so that they are not read on every time step. The parameters should be stored in the self instance of the class so that they can be accessed in the __call__ method. The __call__ method should contain the actual calculation and return of the temperature given the input time. One of CONP, CONT, CONV, COTV, ICEN, TPRO, TTIM, VPRO, or VTIM must be specified. Units: K.

VOL: Initial volume of the reactor. Optional keyword, default: 1E6 cm**3. Units: cm**3.

Example:

```
VOL 1.0
```

VOLC: Specify the clearance volume, V_c . Units: cm**3. See CMPR, VOLD.

Example:

```
VOLC 1.0
```

VOLD: Specify the swept or displaced volume, V_d . Units: cm**3. See CMPR, VOLC.

Example:

```
VOLD 10.0
```

VPRO: Specify the reactor volume as a function of time. Multiple invocations of this keyword build a profile of the volume over the given times. This profile is linearly interpolated to set the reactor volume at any solver time step. When the end time of the profile is exceeded, the volume remains constant at the last specified value. One of CONP, CONT, CONV, COTV, ICEN, TPRO, TTIM, VPRO, or VTIM must be specified. Units: seconds, m**3.

Example:

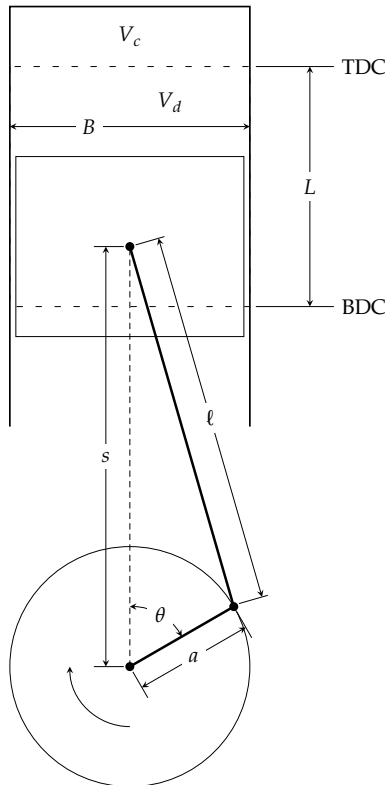
VPRO 0.0 1E-5
 VPRO 0.1 1E-6

VTIM: Specify the reactor volume as a user-provided function of time. To use this keyword, the user must edit the `VolumeFunctionTime` class in the `user_routines` file. Any parameters to be read from external files should be loaded in the `__init__` method so that they are not read on every time step. The parameters should be stored in the `self` instance of the class so that they can be accessed in the `__call__` method. The `__call__` method should contain the actual calculation and must return the velocity of the wall given the input `time`. One of `CONP`, `CONT`, `CONV`, `COTV`, `ICEN`, `TPRO`, `TTIM`, `VPRO`, or `VTIM` must be specified. Units: m/s.

1.4 Internal Combustion Engine Model

The internal combustion engine model in CanSen is included to enable simulations of a reciprocating internal combustion engine. The equation of motion for the piston follows from ¹, Ch. 2.

Assuming the piston roughly appears as:



where s is distance from the crank axis to the piston pin axis, l is the connecting rod length, a is the crank radius, θ is the crank angle, with 0° at the top of the crank, L is the stroke length, B is the cylinder bore, V_d is the swept, or displacement, volume, V_c is the clearance volume, and TDC and BDC are top dead center and bottom dead center respectively (i.e. the top and bottom of the stroke).

The compression ratio of the cylinder is defined as:

$$r_c = \frac{V_d + V_c}{V_c}$$

¹ John B. Heywood. *Internal Combustion Engine Fundamentals*. New York: McGraw Hill, 1988. Print.

The swept volume can either be specified directly, or can be calculated from the cylinder bore and stroke length:

$$V_d = L * \pi * \frac{B^2}{4}$$

The initial volume of the cylinder (the volume at BDC) is:

$$V_0 = V_d + V_c = r_c * V_c = \frac{V_d}{r_c - 1} + V_d$$

The distance from the crank center to the piston pin is given by:

$$s = a \cos(\theta) + \sqrt{\ell^2 - a^2 \sin^2(\theta)}$$

Cantera expects a moving wall to be given a velocity, so we find the piston velocity by differentiating with respect to time:

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -a \sin(\theta) \frac{d\theta}{dt} + \frac{a^2 \sin(\theta) \cos(\theta) \frac{d\theta}{dt}}{\sqrt{\ell^2 - a^2 \sin^2(\theta)}}$$

Defining $\frac{d\theta}{dt}$, the angular velocity of the crank, as ω , and using the definition of the stroke length L and the connecting rod length to crank radius ratio R :

$$L = 2a$$

$$R = \frac{\ell}{a}$$

the equation for the velocity can be simplified to:

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -\omega \frac{L}{2} \sin(\theta) \left[1 + \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sqrt{R^2 - \sin^2(\theta)}} \right]$$

In CanSen, the angular velocity of the crank is input in revolutions per minute, so it must be converted to radians per second:

$$\frac{rad}{s} = RPM * \frac{\pi}{30}$$

By default, the starting crank angle is 180° , or BDC, 0° is TDC and the piston reaches BDC again at -180° . The starting crank angle can be set with the `DEG0` keyword, so θ is calculated as a function of time by:

$$\theta = \frac{DEG0 * \pi}{180} - \omega * t$$

1.5 Postprocessing

CanSen saves the solution information to a binary save file in a standard format called `HDF5`. Many programming and scripting languages have interfaces for `HDF5` files, including `C++`, `MATLAB`, `Fortran 90` and `Python`. Notably, these are all of the interfaces that Cantera supports. The `Python` interface will be demonstrated in this tutorial, but the structure of the data and thus the main content of this tutorial will remain the same for all of the interfaces.

There are several Python interfaces for HDF5, but the one we will be using is called PyTables. The documentation for PyTables can be found on [their GitHub](#) page.

Note that on the following lines, the `>>>` indicates that you should type the text at a Python prompt, not including the `>>>`. First, we will import the necessary libraries:

```
>>> import tables
>>> import cantera as ct
```

If either of these don't work, make sure that PyTables and Cantera are both properly installed.

To print information about the save file, just type the name of its variable

```
>>> save_file
```

The data is saved in the save file with the Table format. Each Row in the Table represents one time step. Each Row further consists of a number of Columns where the data is stored. The Columns can be of arbitrary shape - thus, the entire 2-D sensitivity array is saved in one Column on each time step (i.e. in each row).

The format of the save file is hierarchical. The Table with each time step is stored in a Group, which is stored in the Root. It can be thought of as nested directories, with the Root as the top directory, then the Group, then the Table, like so:

```
Root
  |-Group
    |-Table
```

To access the information in the Table, it should be stored in a variable for quick access. The name of the Group in the save files from CanSen is `reactor`.

```
>>> table = save_file.root.reactor
```

The Table can now be used like any other class instance. In particular, the Table class defines a number of useful functions and attributes, such as `nrows`, which prints the number of rows in the Table.

```
>>> table.nrows
```

PyTables provides a method to iterate over the rows in a table automatically, called `iterrows`. Here we introduce one way to access information in a particular Column in the Table, by using natural name indexing. In this case, we print the value of the time at each time step.

```
>>> for row in table.iterrows():
    print(row['time'])
```

Note that numerical indexing is also supported. The following is equivalent to the above:

```
>>> for row in table.iterrows():
    print(row[0])
```

The information stored by CanSen is written into case-sensitive columns named:

0. time
1. temperature
2. pressure
3. volume
4. massfractions
5. sensitivity

Columns 0-3 have a single value in each row. Column 4 (`massfractions`) contains a vector with length of the number of species in the mechanism. Column 5 is optional and included only if the user requested

sensitivity analysis during the simulation. The dimensions of Column 5 are (n_vars, n_sensitivity_params).

In addition to the method of iterating through Rows, entire Columns can be accessed and stored in variables. First, all of the Columns can be stored in a variable.

```
>>> all_cols = table.cols
```

In this method, different Columns are accessed by their numerical index. The first index to `all_cols` gives the row and the second index gives the column number. Remembering that Python is zero-based, to access the mass fractions on the 4th time step, do

```
>>> mass_fracs_4 = all_cols[3][4]
```

Individual Columns can be stored in variables as well. This is done by the natural naming scheme.

```
>>> all_mass_fracs = table.cols.massfractions
```

This stores an instance of the Column class in `all_mass_fracs`. It may be more useful to store the data in a particular column in a variable. To do that, get a slice of the column by using the index and the colon operator. For instance, to store all of the mass fraction data in a variable

```
>>> all_mass_fracs = table.cols.massfractions[:]
```

Or, to store the fifth through tenth time steps

```
>>> mass_fracs_5_10 = table.cols.massfractions[4:9]
```

Or, to store every other time step from the sixth through the 20th

```
>>> mass_fracs_alt = table.cols.massfractions[5:19:2]
```

Once the data has been extracted from the save file, we need to actually be able to do something with it. Fortunately, Cantera offers a simple way to do this, by initializing a Solution to the desired conditions.

```
>>> gas = ct.Solution('mech.xml')
>>> for row in table.iterrows():
    gas.TPY = row['temperature'], row['pressure'], row['massfractions']
    print(gas.creation_rates)
```

This will print the creation rates of each species at each time step. Any method or parameter supported by the Solution class can be used to retrieve data at any given time step.

Further information about the PyTables package can be found at <http://pytables.github.io/usersguide/index.html> and information about Cantera can be found at <http://cantera.github.io/docs/sphinx/html/index.html>

1.6 Code Documentation

1.6.1 cansen module

`cansen.cansen` (*argv*)

CanSen - the SENKIN-like wrapper for Cantera written in Python.

Usage:

- i: Specify the simulation input file in SENKIN format. Required.
- o: Specify the text output file. Optional, default: `output.out`
- x: Specify the binary save output file. Optional, default: `save.hdf`

- c:** Specify the chemistry input file, in either CHEMKIN, Cantera CTI or CTML format. Optional, default: `chem.xml`
- d:** Specify the thermodynamic database. Optional if the thermodynamic database is specified in the chemistry input file. Otherwise, required.
- convert:** Convert the input mechanism to CTI format and quit. If `--convert` is specified, the SENKIN input file is optional.
- m, -multi:** Run multiple cases from the input file. Optional. If `-m` is used, must specify number of processors to be used (e.g., `-m 4`). If `--multi` is specified, CanSen uses the available number of processors by default.
- h, -help:** Print this help message and quit.

`cansen.main` (*filenames, convert, multi, num_proc, version*)

The main driver function of CanSen.

Parameters

- **filenames** – Dictionary of filenames related to the simulation.
- **convert** – Boolean indicating that the user wishes only to convert the input mechanism and quit.
- **multi** – Boolean indicating multiple cases to be run.
- **num_proc** – Number of processors to use for multiprocessing.
- **version** – Version string of CanSen.

`cansen.worker` (*sim_index_tup*)

Worker for multiprocessing of cases.

Parameters `sim_index_tup` – Tuple containing the MultiSimulationCase object to be run and the index of current case for status messages.

Return res List of simulation results.

1.6.2 printer module

`class printer.Tee` (*name, mode*)

Bases: `object`

Write to screen and text output file

Initialize output.

Parameters

- **name** – Output file name.
- **mode** – Read/Write mode of the output file.

`close()`

Close output file and restore standard behavior

1.6.3 profiles module

`class profiles.VolumeProfile` (*keywords*)

Bases: `object`

Set the velocity of the piston by using a user specified volume profile. The initialization and calling of this class are handled by the `Func1` interface of Cantera. Used with the input keyword `VPRO`

Set the initial values of the arrays from the input keywords.

The time and volume are read from the input file and stored in the `keywords` dictionary. The velocity is calculated by assuming a unit area and using the forward difference, calculated by `numpy.diff`. This function is only called once when the class is initialized at the beginning of a problem so it is efficient.

Parameters `keywords` – Dictionary of keywords read from the input file

`__call__(t)`

Return the velocity when called during a time step.

Using linear interpolation, determine the velocity at a given input time `t`.

Parameters `t` – Input float, current simulation time.

`class profiles.TemperatureProfile(keywords)`

Bases: `object`

Set the temperature of the reactor by using a user specified temperature profile. The initialization and calling of this class are handled by the `Func1` interface of Cantera. Used with the input keyword `TPRO`

Set the initial values of the arrays from the input keywords.

The time and temperature are read from the input file and stored in the `keywords` dictionary as lists. This function is only called once when the class is initialized at the beginning of a problem so it is efficient.

`__call__(t)`

Return the temperature when called during a time step.

Using linear interpolation, determine the temperature at a given input time `t`.

Parameters `t` – Input float, current simulation time.

`class profiles.ICEngineProfile(keywords)`

Bases: `object`

Set the velocity of the wall according to the parameters of a reciprocating engine. The initialization and calling of this class are handled by the `Func1` interface of Cantera. Used with the input keyword `ICEN`.

Set the initial values of the engine parameters.

The parameters are read from the input file into the `keywords` dictionary.

`__call__(time)`

Return the velocity of the piston when called.

The function for the velocity is given by Heywood. See *Internal Combustion Engine Model*.

Parameters `time` – Input float, current simulation time

`class profiles.PressureProfile`

Bases: `object`

Dummy class for the pressure profile, to be implemented in CanSen v2.0

1.6.4 run_cases module

`class run_cases.MultiSimulationCase(filenamees)`

Bases: `run_cases.SimulationCase`

Class that sets up and runs a simulation case, for multiple.

When multiple cases are run, no output is printed and no simulation data is saved; upon completion, the calculated ignition delay times are written to the output file.

Initialize the simulation case.

Read the SENKIN-format input file is read into the `keywords` dictionary.

Parameters `filenames` – Dictionary containing the relevant file names for this case.

run_case()

Actually run the case set up by `setup_case`. Runs the simulation by using `ReactorNet.step(self.tend)`.

class `run_cases.SimulationCase` (*filenames*)

Bases: `object`

Class that sets up and runs a simulation case.

Initialize the simulation case.

Read the SENKIN-format input file is read into the `keywords` dictionary.

Parameters `filenames` – Dictionary containing the relevant file names for this case.

reactor_state_printer (*state, end=False*)

Produce pretty-printed output from the input reactor state.

In this function, we have to explicitly pass in the reactor state instead of using `self.reac` because we might have interpolated to get to the proper time.

Parameters

- **state** – Vector of reactor state information.
- **end** – Boolean to tell the printer this is the final print operation.

run_case()

Actually run the case set up by `setup_case`. Sets binary output file format, then runs the simulation by using `ReactorNet.step(self.tend)`.

run_simulation()

Helper function that sequentially sets up the simulation case and runs it. Useful for cases where nothing needs to be changed between the setup and run. See `setup_case` and `run_case`.

setup_case()

Sets up the case to be run. Initializes the `ThermoPhase`, `Reactor`, and `ReactorNet` according to the values from the input file.

1.6.5 user_routines module

class `user_routines.VolumeFunctionTime`

Bases: `object`

Calculate the volume of the reactor as a user specified function of time.

Set up the function to be calculated.

The `init` function should be used to import any parameters for the volume as a function of time from external files. Do not calculate the volume as a function of time here. Store all of the parameters in the `self` instance. The reason for this is to avoid running the `__init__` function on every time step. See the example below.

Example to load polynomial parameters from a file:

```
# Read the file into the list ``self.params``. The lines of
# the file are read as strings.
with open('file.txt', 'r') as input_file:
    self.params = input_file.readlines()
```

```
# Convert the strings to floats.
self.params = [float(param) for param in self.params]
self.area = 1 # m**2
```

`__call__(time)`

Return the velocity of the piston at the given time.

The call function should be where the implementation of the volume as a function of time is done. Cantera expects the velocity to be returned - $v = dV/dt * 1/A$. Get all of the needed parameters that were stored in the `self` instance. See the example below.

Example to use the previously stored polynomial parameters:

```
volume = (self.params[0] + self.params[1]*time +
          self.params[2]*time**2 + self.params[3]*time**3) # m**3
dvoldt = (self.params[1] + 2*self.params[2]*time +
          3*self.params[3]*time**2) # m**3/s
velocity = dvoldt/self.area # m/s
return velocity
```

`class user_routines.TemperatureFunctionTime`

Bases: object

Calculate the temperature of the reactor as a user specified function of time.

Set up the function to be calculated.

The init function should be used to import any parameters for the temperature as a function of time from external files. Do not calculate the temperature as a function of time here. Store all of the parameters in the `self` instance. The reason for this is to avoid running the `__init__` function on every time step. See the example below.

Example to load polynomial parameters from a file:

```
# Read the file into the list ``self.params``. The lines of
# the file are read as strings.
with open('file.txt', 'r') as input_file:
    self.params = input_file.readlines()
# Convert the strings to floats.
self.params = [float(param) for param in self.params]
```

`__call__(time)`

Return the temperature of the piston at the given time.

The call function should be where the implementation of the temperature as a function of time is done. Get all of the needed parameters that were stored in the `self` instance. See the example below. Note: None is not a valid return value, so this function does not work as written.

Example to use the previously stored polynomial parameters:

```
temperature = (self.params[0] + self.params[1]*time +
               self.params[2]*time**2 + self.params[3]*time**3) # K
return temperature
```

1.6.6 utils module

`utils.cli_parser(argv)`

Parse command line interface input.

Parameters `argv` – List of command line options.

`utils.convert_mech(mech_filename, thermo_filename)`

Convert a mechanism and return a string with the filename.

Convert a CHEMKIN format mechanism to the Cantera CTI format using the Cantera built-in script `ck2cti`.

Parameters

- **mech_filename** – Filename of the input CHEMKIN format mechanism. The converted CTI file will have the same name, but with `.cti` extension.
- **thermo_filename** – Filename of the thermodynamic database. Optional if the thermodynamic database is present in the mechanism input.

`utils.equivalence_ratio(gas, eq_ratio, fuel, oxidizer, complete_products, additional_species)`

Calculate the mixture mole fractions from the equivalence ratio.

Given the equivalence ratio, fuel mixture, oxidizer mixture, the products of complete combustion, and any additional species for the mixture, return a string containing the mole fractions of the species, suitable for setting the state of the input ThermoPhase.

Parameters

- **gas** – Cantera ThermoPhase object containing the desired species.
- **eq_ratio** – Equivalence ratio
- **fuel** – Dictionary of molecules in the fuel mixture and the fraction of each molecule in the fuel mixture
- **oxidizer** – Dictionary of molecules in the oxidizer mixture and the fraction of each molecule in the oxidizer mixture.
- **complete_products** – List of species in the products of complete combustion.
- **additional_species** – Dictionary of molecules that will be added to the mixture. The mole fractions given in this dictionary are as a fraction of the total mixture.

`utils.process_multi_input(input_filename)`

Process a formatted input file into multiple cases.

Processes a formatted input file that contains multiple cases into separate temporary files, for individual reading of keywords.

Parameters **input_filename** – Filename of the SENKIN input file.

Return filenames List of temporary filenames.

`utils.reactor_interpolate(interp_time, state1, state2)`

Linearly interpolate the reactor states to the given input time.

Parameters

- **interp_time** – Time at which the interpolated values should be calculated
- **state1** – Array of the state information at the previous time step.
- **state2** – Array of the state information at the current time step.

`utils.read_input_file(input_filename)`

Read a formatted input file and return a dictionary of keywords.

Parameters **input_filename** – Filename of the SENKIN input file.

`utils.remove_files(files)`

Delete files.

Parameters **files** – List of names of files to be removed

NOTICE

I have tested this software to the best of my abilities. Any user uses this software with the express understanding that there may be bugs, non-working features, and other gremlins that prevent a user from using the software to their specification. If you find problems, please report them in the [issue tracker](#).

ALL USERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CHECK THEIR RESULTS WITH AN INDEPENDENT PROGRAM! Researchers especially are encouraged *not* to treat this software as a black box. Always remember: Garbage in equals garbage out!

LICENSE

Also available in [LICENSE.txt](#)

The MIT License (MIT)

Copyright (c) 2014 Bryan W. Weber

Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy of this software and associated documentation files (the “Software”), to deal in the Software without restriction, including without limitation the rights to use, copy, modify, merge, publish, distribute, sublicense, and/or sell copies of the Software, and to permit persons to whom the Software is furnished to do so, subject to the following conditions:

The above copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in all copies or substantial portions of the Software.

THE SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED “AS IS”, WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND NONINFRINGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AUTHORS OR COPYRIGHT HOLDERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY CLAIM, DAMAGES OR OTHER LIABILITY, WHETHER IN AN ACTION OF CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, ARISING FROM, OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOFTWARE OR THE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN THE SOFTWARE.

INDICES AND TABLES

- *genindex*
- *modindex*
- *search*

c

cansen, [15](#)

p

printer, [16](#)

profiles, [16](#)

r

run_cases, [17](#)

u

user_routines, [18](#)

utils, [19](#)

[__call__\(\)](#) (profiles.ICEngineProfile method), 17
[__call__\(\)](#) (profiles.TemperatureProfile method), 17
[__call__\(\)](#) (profiles.VolumeProfile method), 17
[__call__\(\)](#) (user_routines.TemperatureFunctionTime method), 19
[__call__\(\)](#) (user_routines.VolumeFunctionTime method), 19

cansen (module), 15
cansen() (in module cansen), 15
cli_parser() (in module utils), 19
close() (printer.Tee method), 16
convert_mech() (in module utils), 19

equivalence_ratio() (in module utils), 20

ICEngineProfile (class in profiles), 17

main() (in module cansen), 16
MultiSimulationCase (class in run_cases), 17

PressureProfile (class in profiles), 17
printer (module), 16
process_multi_input() (in module utils), 20
profiles (module), 16

reactor_interpolate() (in module utils), 20
reactor_state_printer() (run_cases.SimulationCase method), 18
read_input_file() (in module utils), 20
remove_files() (in module utils), 20
run_case() (run_cases.MultiSimulationCase method), 18
run_case() (run_cases.SimulationCase method), 18
run_cases (module), 17
run_simulation() (run_cases.SimulationCase method), 18

setup_case() (run_cases.SimulationCase method), 18
SimulationCase (class in run_cases), 18

Tee (class in printer), 16
TemperatureFunctionTime (class in user_routines), 19
TemperatureProfile (class in profiles), 17
user_routines (module), 18
utils (module), 19

VolumeFunctionTime (class in user_routines), 18
VolumeProfile (class in profiles), 16

worker() (in module cansen), 16