

```
In [1]: 1 from astropy.table import Table
        2 from astropy.io import fits
        3
        4 from nicergof.bkg import bkg_estimator as be
        5
```

## ▼ Test of background estimator

### Obsid 2012040205

Obsid 2012040205 is an observation of BKGD\_RXTE\_4 with an exposure time of 4891.0 seconds whether the 4891.0 background was reliably recovered.

I created the background spectrum using

```
corcoran% nibkgestimator ni2012040205.pha ../auxil/ni2012040205.mkf3
Downloading https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/FTP/caldb/data/nicer/xti/pc
|=====
192M (100.00%)          19s

For GTI #0; Duration = 1.0
For GTI #1; Duration = 740.0
For GTI #2; Duration = 3.0
For GTI #3; Duration = 200.0
For GTI #4; Duration = 276.0
For GTI #5; Duration = 1.0
For GTI #6; Duration = 1222.0

No Events Found

For GTI #7; Duration = 1226.0

No Events Found

For GTI #8; Duration = 945.0
For GTI #9; Duration = 277.0

Done
```

NOTE:

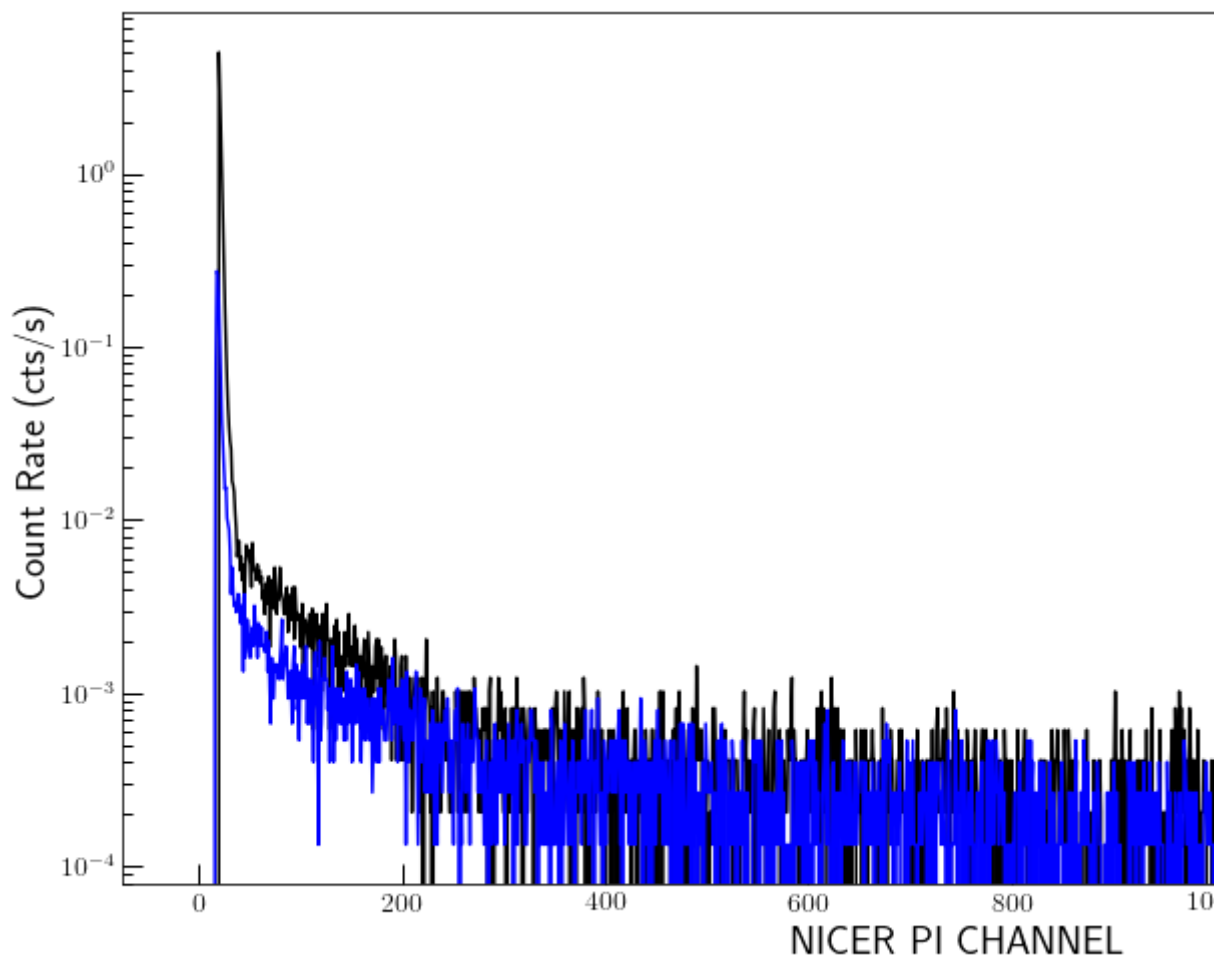
- for the 2 longest duration GTIs no events were found in the enhanced background event file

Now let's compare the spectra

```
In [2]: 1 src = Table.read('2012040205/xsel/ni2012040205.pha', hdu='spectrum'
        2 bkg = Table.read('2012040205/xsel/ni2012040205_bkg.pha', hdu='spect
```

```
In [3]: 1 fig = figure(figsize=(15, 8))
2        yscale('log')
3        ylabel('Count Rate (cts/s)',fontsize=20)
4        xlabel('NICER PI CHANNEL',fontsize=20)
5        plot(src['CHANNEL'],src['COUNTS']/src.meta['EXPOSURE'])
6        plot(bkg['CHANNEL'],bkg['COUNTS']/bkg.meta['EXPOSURE'])
```

```
Out[3]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1172ceb90>]
```



## ▼ Results:

- pretty good recovery of the shape of the spectrum
- underestimate of the spectrum from channels 1-200, possibly due to the lack of events in GT

## ▼ 2012060217

Obsid 2012060217 is an observation of BKGD\_RXTE\_6 with an exposure time of 3735.0 seconds whether the BKGD\_RXTE\_6 background was reliably recovered.

I created the background spectrum using

```
corcoran% nibkgestimator 2012060217/xsel/ni2012060217.pha 2012060217/  
Downloading https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/FTP/caldb/data/nicer/xti/pc  
|=====192M (100.00%)          18s
```

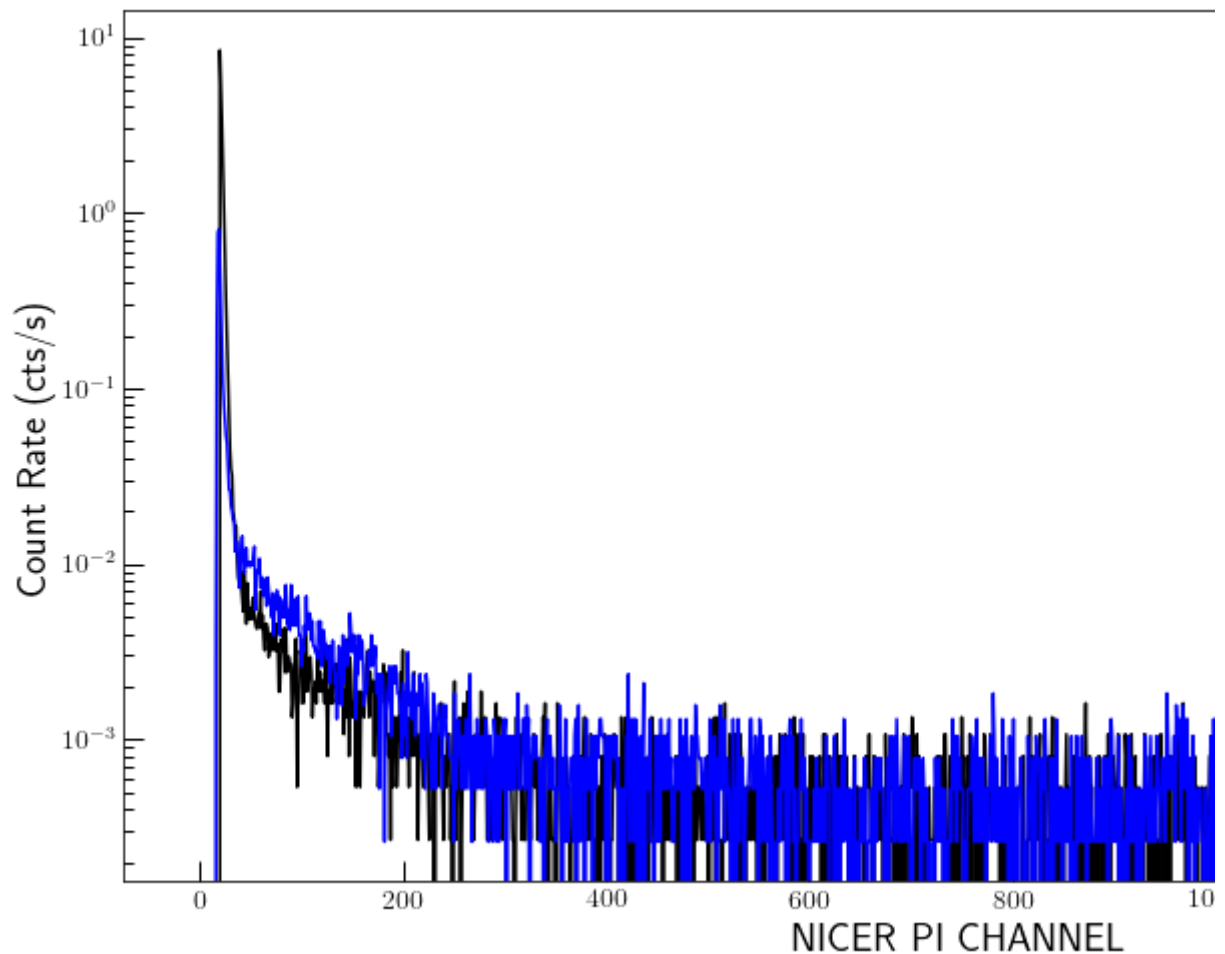
```
For GTI #0; Duration = 406.0  
For GTI #1; Duration = 385.0  
For GTI #2; Duration = 388.0  
For GTI #3; Duration = 385.0  
For GTI #4; Duration = 366.0  
For GTI #5; Duration = 1.0  
For GTI #6; Duration = 342.0  
For GTI #7; Duration = 347.0  
For GTI #8; Duration = 397.0  
For GTI #9; Duration = 705.0  
For GTI #10; Duration = 13.0  
Done
```

```

In [4]: 1 src = Table.read('2012060217/xsel/ni2012060217.pha', hdu='spectrum'
2         bkg = Table.read('2012060217/xsel/ni2012060217_bkg.pha', hdu='spect
3         fig = figure(figsize=(15, 8))
4         yscale('log')
5         ylabel('Count Rate (cts/s)', fontsize=20)
6         xlabel('NICER PI CHANNEL', fontsize=20)
7         plot(src['CHANNEL'], src['COUNTS']/src.meta['EXPOSURE'])
8         plot(bkg['CHANNEL'], bkg['COUNTS']/bkg.meta['EXPOSURE'])

```

```
Out[4]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x119881e90>]
```



## ▼ 2012080116

Obsid 2012080116 is an observation of BKGD\_RXTE\_8 with an exposure time of 1652.0 seconds whether the 1652.0 background was reliably recovered.

I created the background spectrum using

```
corcoran% nibkgestimator 2012080116/xsel/ni2012080116.pha 2012080116/
Downloading https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/FTP/caldb/data/nicer/xti/pc
|=====
192M (100.00%)          17s

For GTI #0; Duration = 810.0
For GTI #1; Duration = 13.0
For GTI #2; Duration = 829.0
Done
```

```
In [5]: 1 src = Table.read('2012080116/xsel/ni2012080116.pha', hdu='spectrum'
2         bkg = Table.read('2012080116/xsel/ni2012080116_bkg.pha', hdu='spect
3         fig = figure(figsize=(15, 8))
4         yscale('log')
5         ylabel('Count Rate (cts/s)', fontsize=20)
6         xlabel('NICER PI CHANNEL', fontsize=20)
7         plot(src['CHANNEL'], src['COUNTS']/src.meta['EXPOSURE'])
8         plot(bkg['CHANNEL'], bkg['COUNTS']/bkg.meta['EXPOSURE'])
```

```
Out[5]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x119810090>]
```

