



Science Data Systems

Jonathan McDowell



COVID-19: SDS SAO staff hybrid working (typically 2 days/wk remote)

Team: McDowell, Fruscione (1/2), Siemiginowska, Burke

(SAO scientists: CIAO, Sherpa, Docs, HRC, Catalog, User support)

Glotfelty, Lee, Joye, Cranmer (1/2)

(SAO computer specialists: Docs, User support, scripts, DS9)

Huenemoerder, Guenther, Principe, Nynka

(MIT scientists: Gratings, ACIS, PSF, V&V, Catalog, Sherpa, User support)

Overview:

Ensure the science community can turn data products into science papers:

Define, test and support CIAO - the Chandra user data analysis package

User support for data analysis

Maintain and improve science algorithms, data products

Simplify and codify evolving best practices for analysis (scripts, threads)

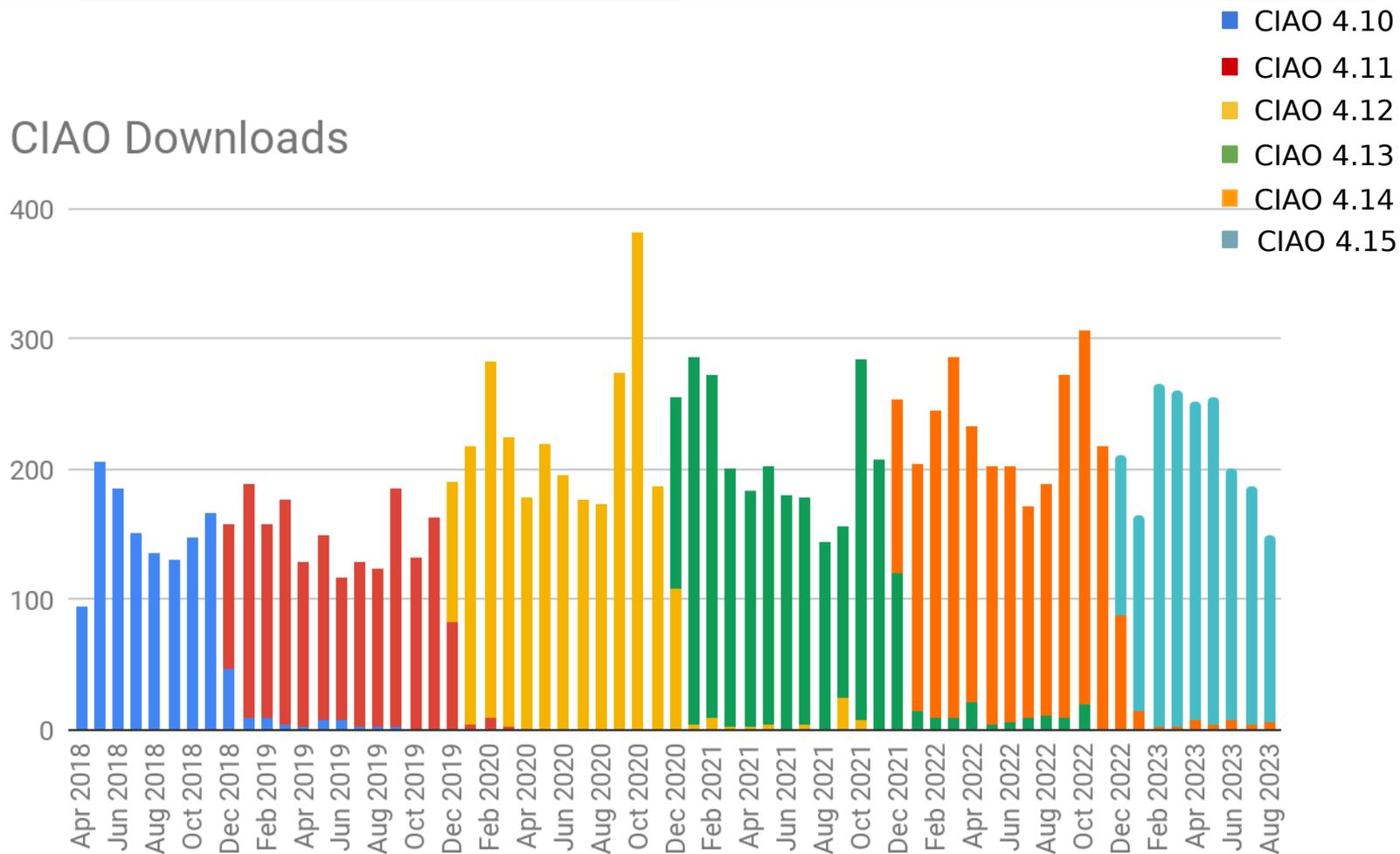


Community Support:

Downloads,
Documentation,
Helpdesk



CIAO Downloads



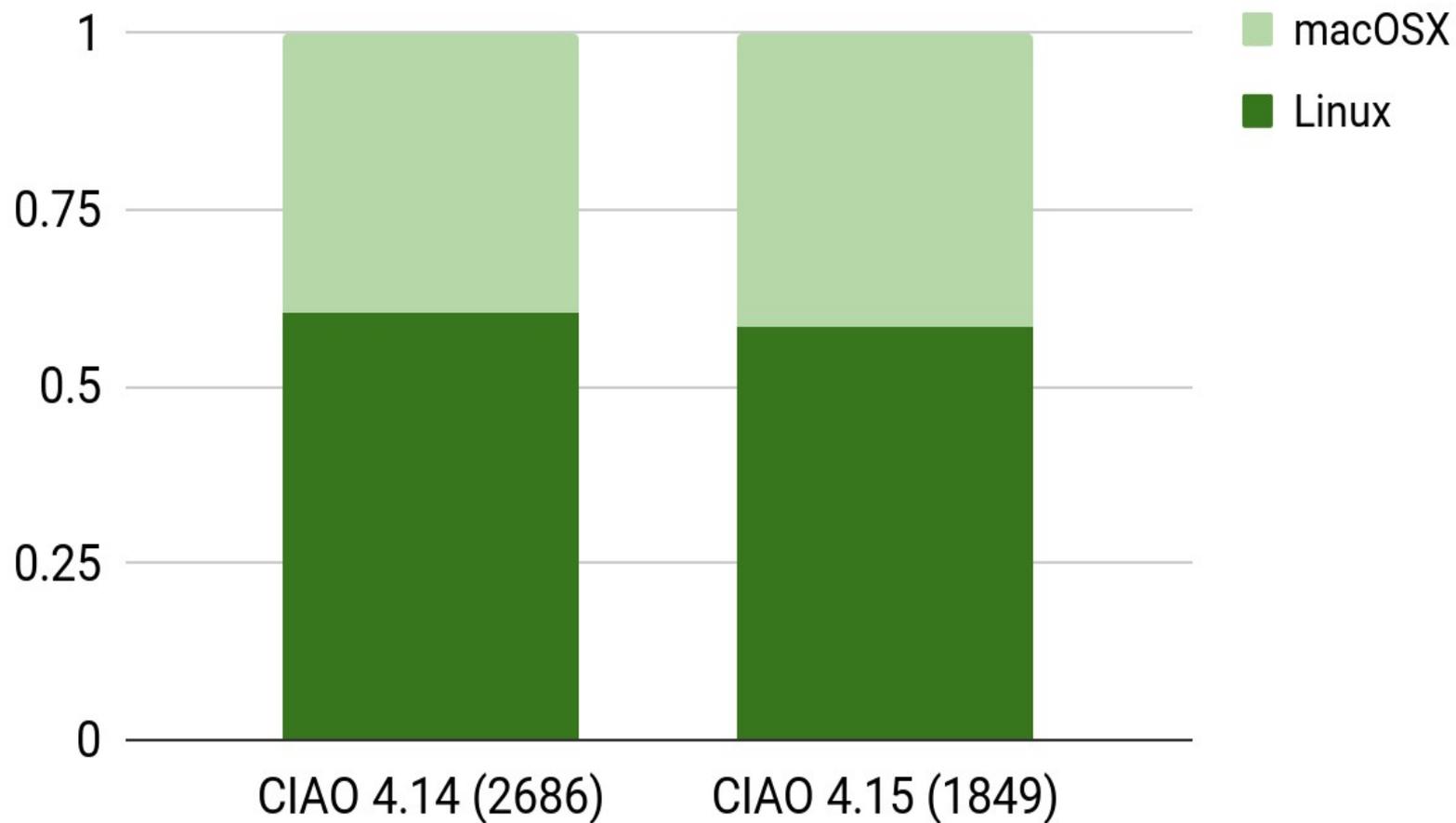


Downloads (lifetime)

OS	CIAO 4.14	CIAO 4.15
Linux	1627	1082
macOSX	1059	767
	2686	1849
Source	43	5
Total	2729	1854

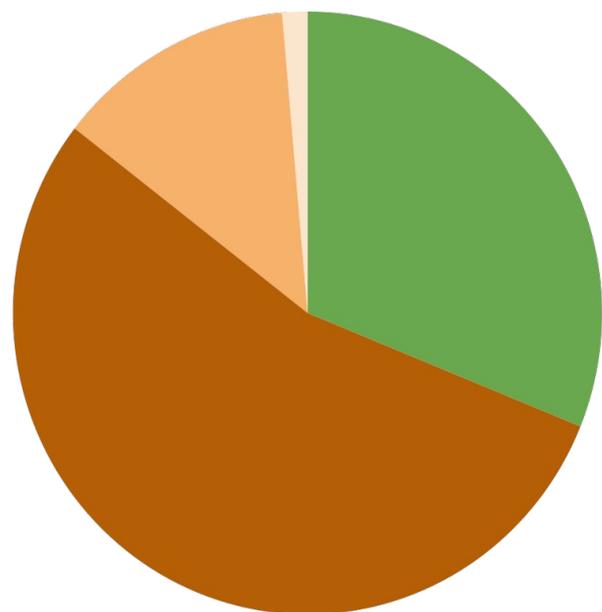


Download by OS

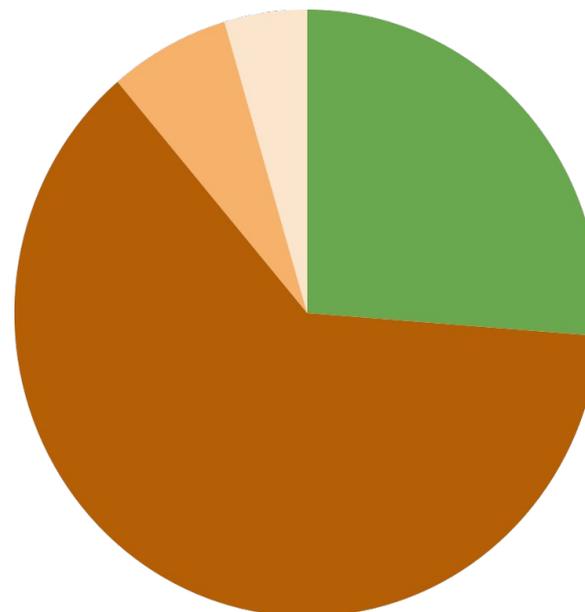




CIAO 4.15 Installation Options



Linux



Mac



The default python version for the conda installations keeps changing. We now explicitly recommend users use Python 3.10 unless they specifically need an older version.

ciao-install vs conda fractions are similar to last year.



Documentation



Documentation

- Routine CIAO 4.15 website roll out.
- Google searches kept sending users to old version of CIAO pages, so the old versions have been removed with redirects to the current version.
 - Only CIAO 4.14 and CIAO 4.15 are available.
- New data caveat about using `wcs_match` or `reproject_aspect` with `method=rst` (rotate, scale, translate) and possibility of getting data products with different pixel sizes. Use `method=trans` instead.
- New threads:
 - `srcflux` plugins
 - mean energy map (`statmap`)
 - building XSpec user-models for Sherpa [resurrected and rewritten]
- Updated several docs to highlight the change to the default dither parameters.
- Based on user experience [updated the CIAO conda installation instructions](#)
 - Instruct users to use Python 3.10 by default
 - Provide explicit instructions for ARM/M1/M2 users on how to use `CONDA_SUBDIR` environment variable.



- Review, revision, and reorganization of introductory documentation from the perspective of a total beginner to ensure clarity and accessibility for all levels of x-ray astronomy experience
 - We acknowledge the demographic shift in Chandra users from primarily experienced users who might have previously worked with data from Einstein Observatory, ROSAT, etc. to a more significant fraction of users for whom Chandra is their first x-ray observatory
- New staff member (Cranmer) practiced data analysis with CIAO, Sherpa, and ds9 following introductory threads in preparation for assisting with SDS HelpDesk tickets and testing

Where should I begin?

For those new to X-ray astronomy and data analysis

[An X-ray Data Primer: What I Wish I Knew when Starting X-Ray Astronomy](#)

Useful links for those people who have never used CIAO before.

[Welcome to CIAO](#)
[Introduction to the Tools & Applications](#)

[Introductory Science Threads - Beginners should start here](#)

[Download CIAO 4.15.2 with conda](#)
[Download CIAO 4.15.2 using the ciao-install script](#)

[Quick Start Guide](#)

[All CIAO Threads](#)

[Analysis Guides](#)
[YouTube videos](#)

[Chandra/CIAO Workshops](#)

Sherpa: [Modeling and Fitting](#)

DS9: [Interactive image display and analysis](#)

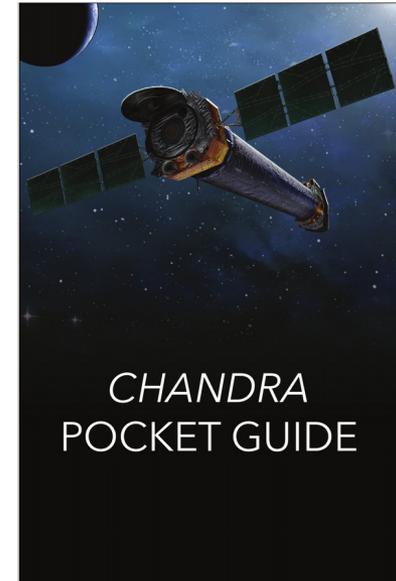


Chandra Pocket Guide

cxc.harvard.edu/cdo/pocket_guide.pdf

Many conference attendees would comment that as introductory material the CfP and POG are overwhelming.

- Designed to be a quick overview and reference for new users in the scientific community.
- Provide summary of the available instruments so that you can understand what you're looking at an event file.
- Provide overview on the types of observing programs and science being done with recent observations.
- Provides basic considerations about the spacecraft an observer needs to account for when writing a proposal.
- Provides information about accessing and using data.



Made available at the Albuquerque AAS in June 2023



CSC Column Descriptions

Prototype approach to providing more column descriptor information with pop-up tooltips when available.

Hardness Ratios	Column Name	Unit	Description
	hard_hm	double	ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - medium (1.2-2.0 keV) energy band hardness ratio
	hard_hm_lolim	double	ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - medium (1.2-2.0 keV) energy band hardness ratio (68% lower confidence limit)
	hard_hm_hilim	double	ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - medium (1.2-2.0 keV) energy band hardness ratio (68% upper confidence limit)
	var_inter_hard_prob_hm	double	inter-observation ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - medium (1.2-2.0 keV) energy band hardness ratio variability probability
	var_inter_sigma_prob_hm	double	inter-observation ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - medium (1.2-2.0 keV) energy band hardness ratio variability standard deviation
	hard_hs	double	ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio
	hard_hs_lolim	double	ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio (68% lower confidence limit)
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	var_inter_sigma_prob_hs	double	inter-observation ACIS hard (2.0-7.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio variability standard deviation
	hard_ms	double	ACIS medium (1.2-2.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio
	hard_ms_lolim	double	ACIS medium (1.2-2.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio (68% lower confidence limit)
	hard_ms_hilim	double	ACIS medium (1.2-2.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio (68% upper confidence limit)
	var_inter_hard_prob_ms	double	inter-observation ACIS medium (1.2-2.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio variability probability
	var_inter_sigma_prob_ms	double	inter-observation ACIS medium (1.2-2.0 keV) - soft (0.5-1.2 keV) energy band hardness ratio variability standard deviation

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From the Spectral Properties column descriptions page:

Hardness ratios appear in both the Master Sources Table and the Per-Observation Detections Table with the field names *hard_xy*, *hard_xy_hilim*, and *hard_xy_lolim*. The hardness ratios that appear in the Master Sources Table are determined from the Bayesian probability distribution functions (PDFs) of the source source photon fluxes derived from the source regions of the contributing individual source observations contained in the Per-Observation Detections Table. Only energy bands hard (h, 2.0-7.0 keV), medium (m, 1.2-2.0 keV) and soft (s, 0.5-1.2 keV) are used.

For two given energy bands, they are defined as the single observation level as the flux value in the softer band, subtracted from the flux value in the harder band, relative to their sum. However, since the PDFs are used, this definition is based on probabilistic considerations. Just like the fluxes are random variables with associated probabilities, so are the hardness ratios. Specifically, the values listed are the ones that maximize the following PDF:

$$P_{H_{xy}}(H_{xy})dH_{xy} = \int_{F_{xy}=0}^{\infty} P_x \left(\frac{(1 + H_{xy})F_{xy}}{2} \right) P_y \left(\frac{(1 - H_{xy})F_{xy}}{2} \right) \frac{F_{xy}}{2} dH_{xy}dF_{xy}$$

By convention for the catalog, band x is always the higher energy band. As an example, *hard_ms* is the medium-to-soft band hardness ratio, defined as:

$$hard_{ms} = \frac{F(m) - F(s)}{F(m) + F(s)}$$

Note that this definition of hardness ratio is different than that used in *Chandra Source Catalog Release 1*, where the denominator in the ratio was obtained from combining all three energy bands: soft, medium, and hard.

As the reported values for each of these quantiles represent the maximum a posteriori values of their given PDFs, the column hardness ratio values might differ slightly from that calculated directly from the aperture fluxes reported in the catalog.

Hardness ratios using the broad, ultra-soft, and HRC bands are not included in the catalog. The two-sided confidence limits associated with the ACIS hardness ratios are computed from the marginalized probability distributions and always lie within the range -1 to 1. If an aperture flux marginalized probability distribution cannot be computed for a given energy band, then no colors associated with that band are reported. At the stack and master level, the hardness ratios are also evaluated using the exponents above, but using respectively all the observations in the stack or best Bayesian block.

In *Chandra Source Catalog Release 2*, the individual source detection hardness ratios are also assessed for variability among the individual observations. See the description of *Source Variability*. A detailed description of hardness ratios can be found in the *hardness ratios and variability matrix*.



Helpdesk



Helpdesk Stats

	2021-09-01 to 2022-08-31	2022-09-01 to 2023-08-31
Time period [months]	12	12
Number of Tickets	233	264
Median time to 1st contact [hrs]	1.45	1.53
Median time to close [hrs]	15.92	14.85
Maximum time to close [hrs]	1728.2	1346.4

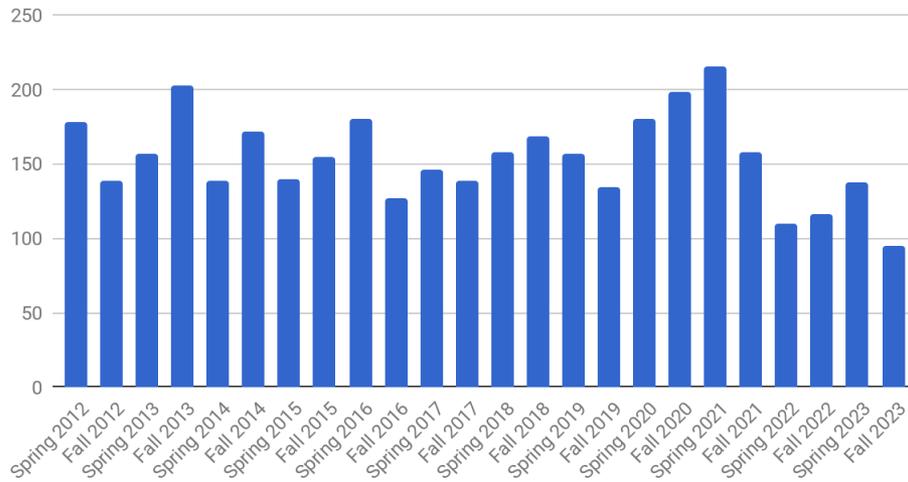
Longest ticket was about user trying to recreate mkpsf's PSF library using MARX. Ticket opened before end-of-year holidays in 2022 and extended into 2023.

One ticket from 15 May 2023 is currently still open and has over 75 iterations. User is trying to resolve Chandra and XMM backgrounds. Quote from the user "xmm helpdesk people asking about this, but they stopped replying to me"

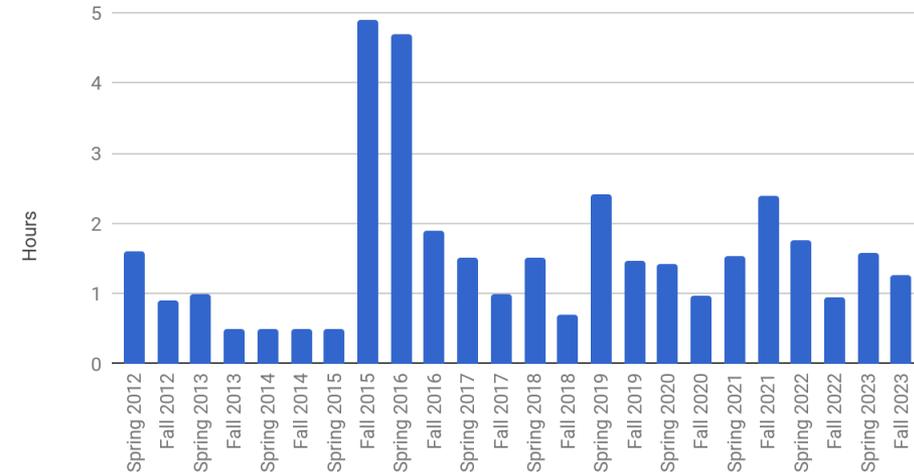


Long Term Helpdesk Trends

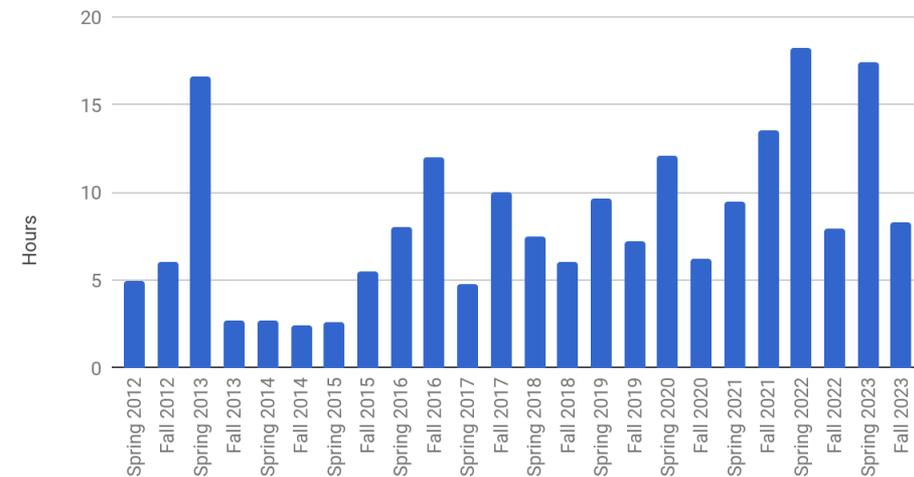
Number of Tickets



Time To Answer



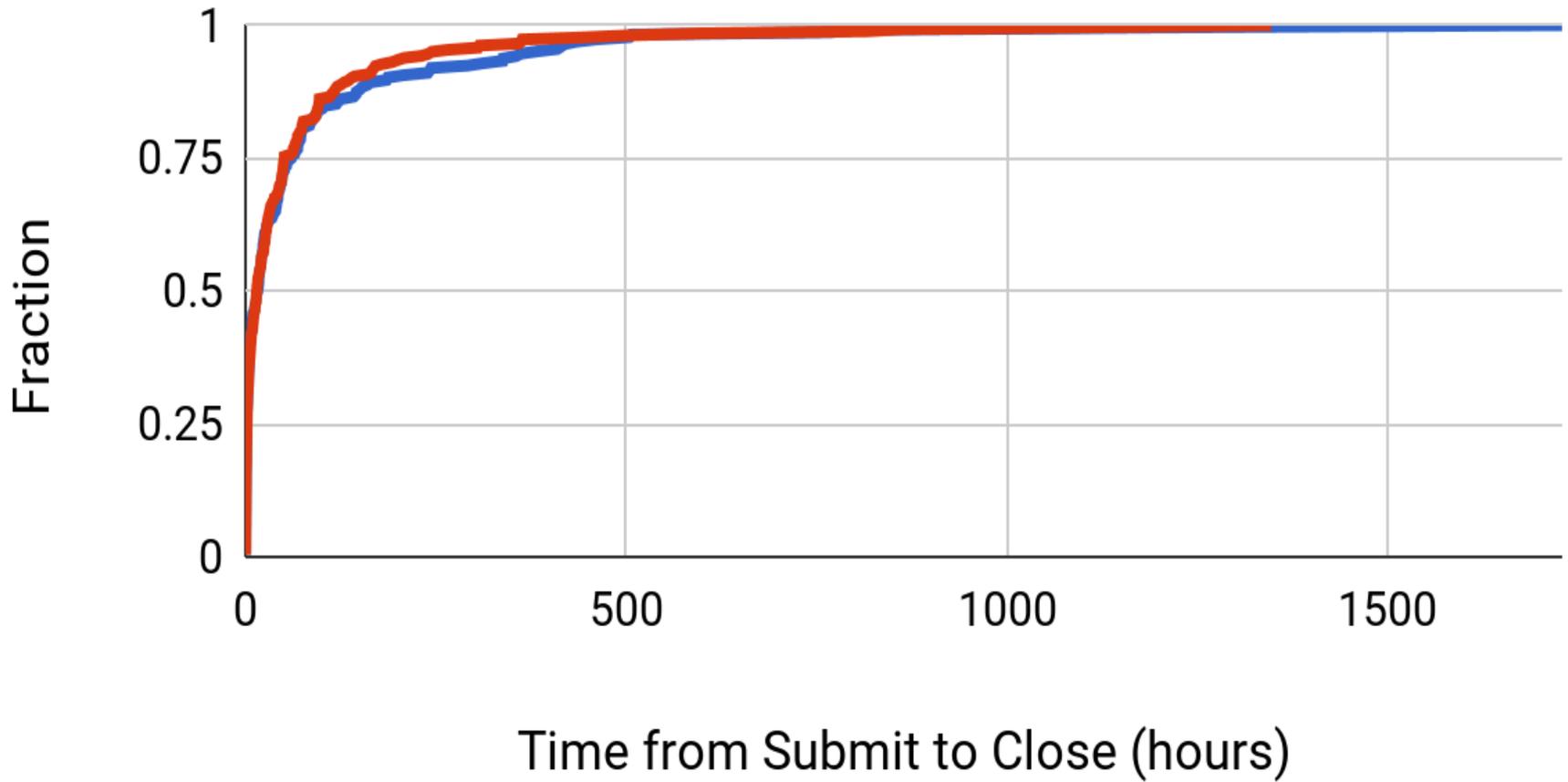
Time To Close





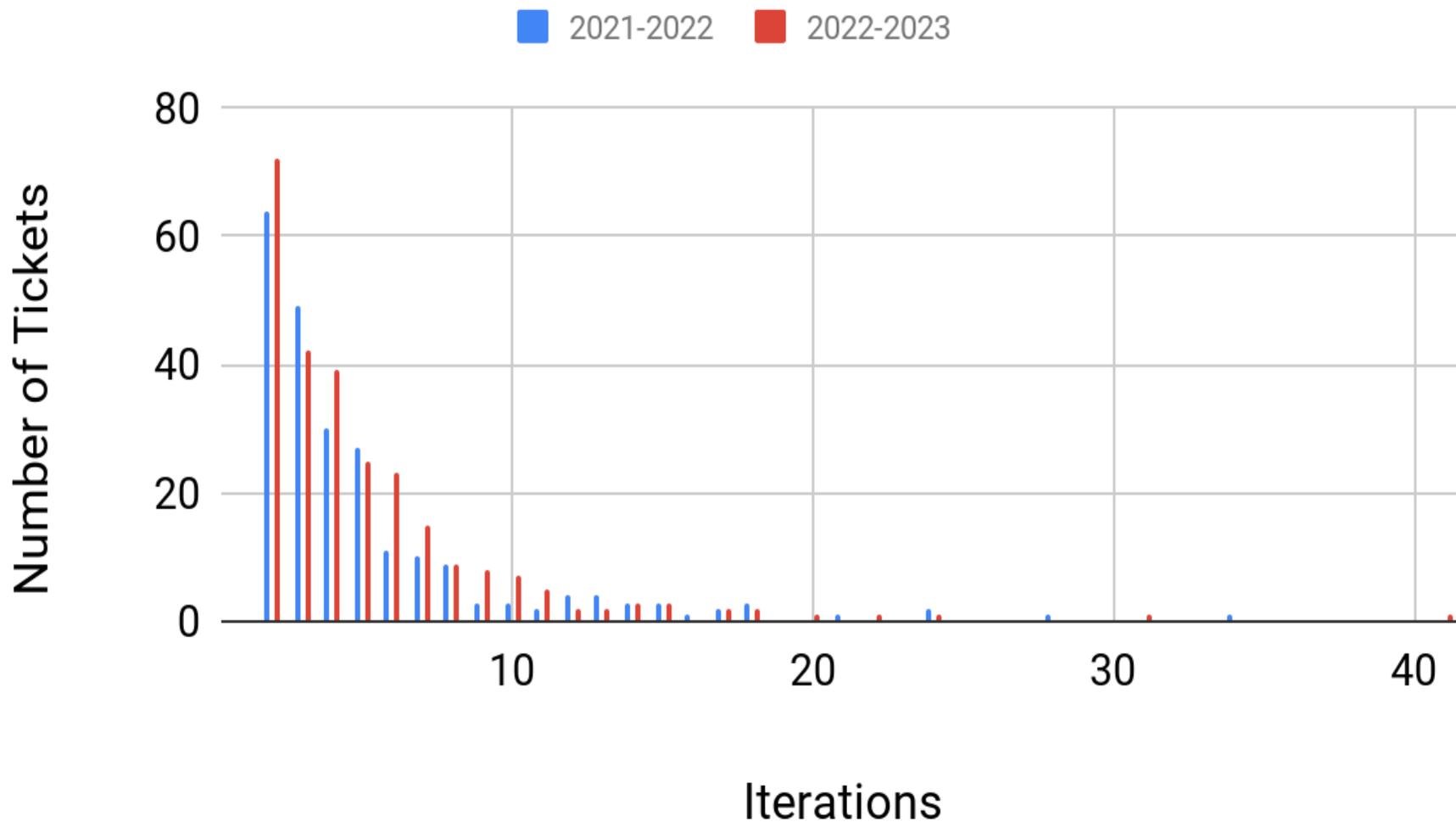
Ticket Aging

— 2021-2022 — 2022-2023





Iterations per Ticket





Helpdesk

Examples of Bugs

- Problem with tcl/tk using ciao-install edition on macOS causing problems with plotting using matplotlib and DAX tasks (e.g. sherpa model editor)
- Obsvis does not support web access through proxy servers (calibration file download fails)
- merge_obs problem with CC mode and with some fractional binsizes.
- Issue with mismatch pixelsize when using wcs_match or reproject_aspect with method=rst (scale differs)
- Problem with missing 'file' utility on HEASARC's SciServer causing problems with crates.
- dmfilth (and others) issue with WCS coordinate units (deg vs. degree)



Community



Community Outreach

AAS 241

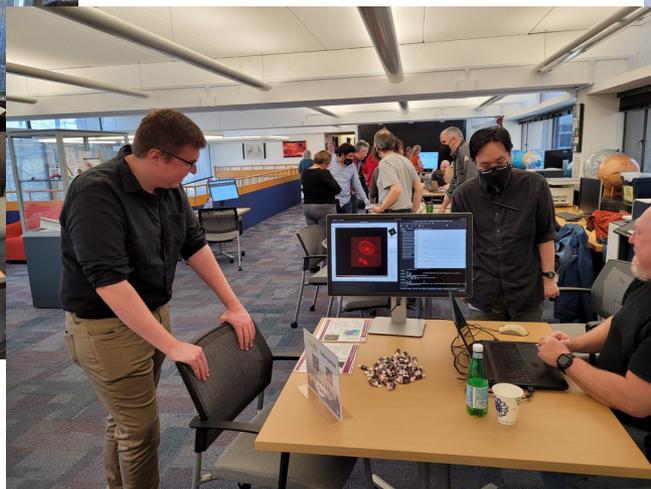
Planned CIAO workshop at Jan AAS was cancelled due to low registration.
Evaluating other options to interact directly with the community.



Community Outreach

CfA DEMOFEST (Apr 11)

Local event to highlight various software projects underway at the CfA.
Chandra was well represented; SDS supported demos for CIAO, ds9, and Sherpa, next to DS' catalog and archive demos





Community Outreach

American Physical Society - April Meeting

CDO/SDS supported Chandra booth: lots of traffic and interactions



Students at the booth from the University of San Diego



Community Outreach

AAS 242 - June Albuquerque Meeting

CDO/SDS supported Chandra booth, a lot of traffic and many repeat visitors.

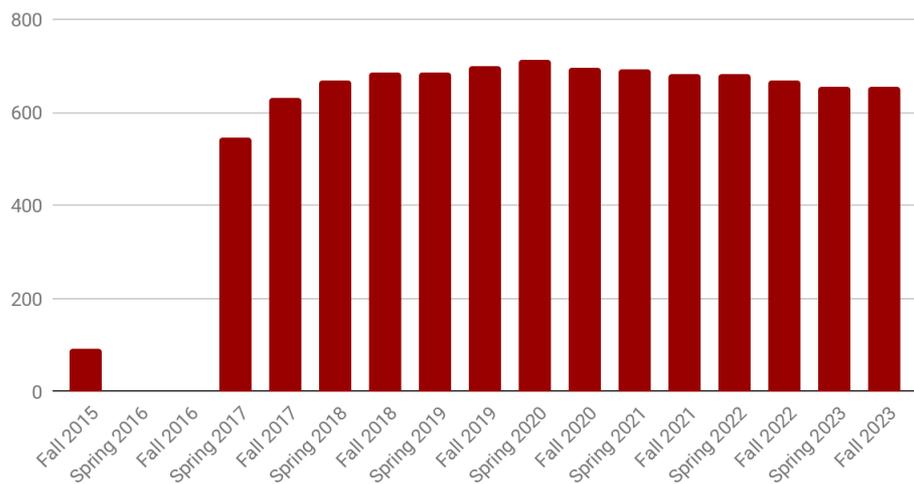
< one daily visitor: “I LOVE Buttons!!!” >



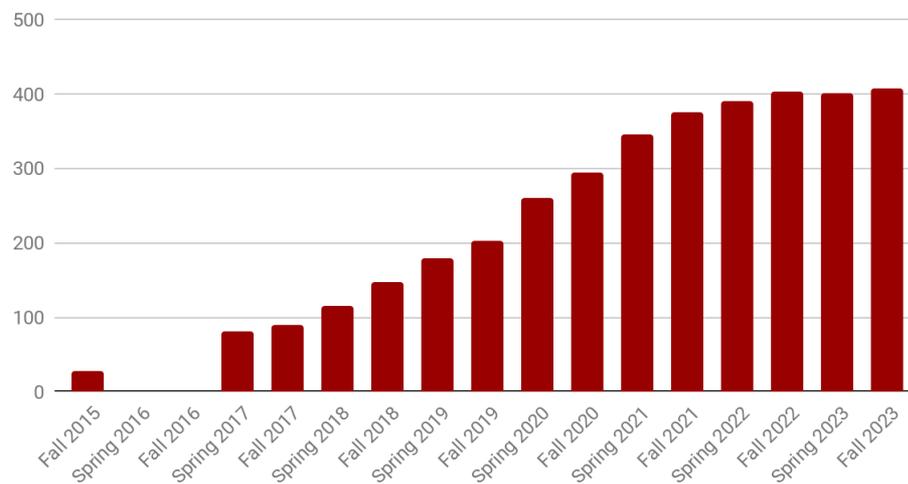


Social Media

Facebook



Twitter



Facebook	ChandraCIAO	655 followers (-1)
Twitter	@chandraCIAO	408 followers (+8)



CIAO 4.16 and Scripts Overview



CIAO 4.15

- Routine collection of bug fixes and enhancements including support for atypical observing modes like HRC-I + HETG.
- Updated to latest off the shelf packages including SAOImage DS9 v8.4.1
- Collection of new and updated contributed scripts.
- Available for Linux and Mac (intel binaries only, ARM requires Rosetta2)



CIAO Patches

- CIAO 4.15.1
 - Upgrade ds9 to 8.4.1 to fix issue with plotting
 - Upgrades to support newer version of NumPy
- CIAO 4.15.2
 - Updates to ObsVis to correct pointing error and dither box sizes



CIAO 4.16 planning:

- Continued bug fixes
- Support for native Mac ARM builds
- a_p_e
 - temperature dependent cti - discussed later
 - check_vf keyword
- mkosip tool for specialized order sorting
- Continued OTS updates including ds9 8.5
- Additional new and updated contributed scripts.



ciao_install

As per the prior CUC recommendation, CIAO 4.16 will only be available as conda packages.

A new ciao-install script is being developed to provide much the same look and feel as the current version but under the hood uses the conda repositories and mechanisms to install CIAO.

We expect to have this replacement for ciao-install in the December release. Those CUC members who prefer ciao-install to conda are encouraged to give feedback.



Contributed Scripts

4.15.0 - December 2022

- Scripts to support 'acis_extract' functionality: psf_contour, bkg_fixed_counts
- New aplimits scripts to compute upper limits for false detections and missed detections.
- specextract updates to how the response position is determined.

4.15.1- January 2023

- New color_color script calculates hardness ratios for varying model parameters.
- Updates to convert_xspec_user_model (support "udmget" models).
- Several bug fixes and enhancements.

4.15.2 - June 2023

New get_dither_parameters script to compute dither parameters.

Updates for convert_xspec_user_model to support more features of the XSPEC XCM file format.

More bug fixes and enhancements.

4.15.3 - August 2023

specextract - fix for extracting spectra from blank sky background files.

Added support for additional CSC data products to search_csc scripts.



statmap

(Scripts 4.15.0)

Uses output from existing tools (e.g. dmradar) that partition an image into different regions (a 'map file').

Takes an event file and the map file, and calculates an image whose pixel values are 'averaged' over each region and are the mean, median, sum, min or max of the column values in that region.

An example usage is to get the mean energy of the events thus creating a mean energy map.

Not actually a "temperature map" but can help guide more detailed analysis.

Creating mean energy maps (aka pseudo temperature maps) - CIAO 4.15 - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

CXC Intranet x 2023 Sprint QR CIAO/scri x Creating mean energy m x +

https://cxc.cfa.harvard.edu/ciao/threads/mean_energy_maps/

CXCDS Email Archi... CIAO CNN.com WebChaser Daily DAX / JS9 analysis Trello PNG nbviewer Other Bookmarks

We then use the **NEW** statmap tool to compute the mean of the energy column value in the event file.

```
unix% punlearn statmap
unix% statmap infile=no_point_srcs.evt [ccd_id=7, energy=500:7000] \
mapfile=ngc7618.map \
outfile=ngc7618_median_energy.map \
column=energy statistic=mean clob+
```

The results are shown in [Figure 8](#). The cen other structures extending to the South of further investigations.

Figure 8: Mean energy map

[Version: full-size]

Overlaying grid map bound
Sometimes it can be usef
output map file from dmr:

```
unix% ds9 ngc7618_
```

2521
2341
2160
1980
1801
1620
1440
1259
1079

https://cxc.cfa.harvard.edu/ciao/threads/mean_energy_maps/



color_color

(Scripts 4.15.1)

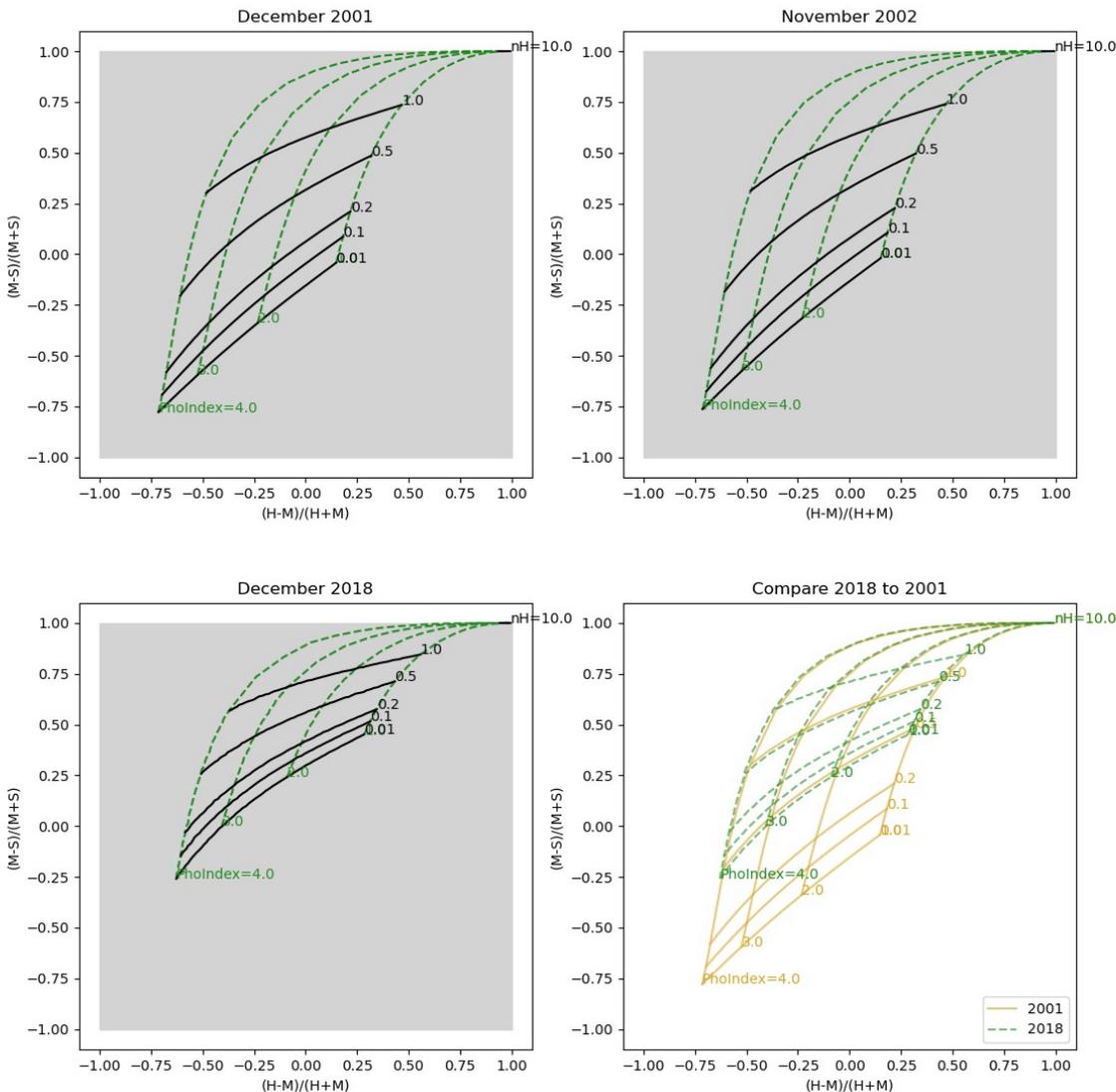
Computes predicted hardness ratios from 3 energy bands for a specified spectral model and response files, as a function of the model parameters.

Can be used to approximate model parameters for low count sources. Can also help in choosing optimized energy bands



Absorbed powerlaw

Example showing color_color diagrams for an absorbed powerlaw using standard CSC energy bands for the same source imaged in 2001 (obsid 3040), November 2002 (obsid) and 2018 (obsid 21355). The later color_color diagram is compressed due to the effects of the contamination on the detector efficiency.





get_dither_parameters

(Scripts 4.15.2)

The operational change to the dither amplitude and period has an effect on some users doing timing analysis and when using scripts like `acis_streak_map`.

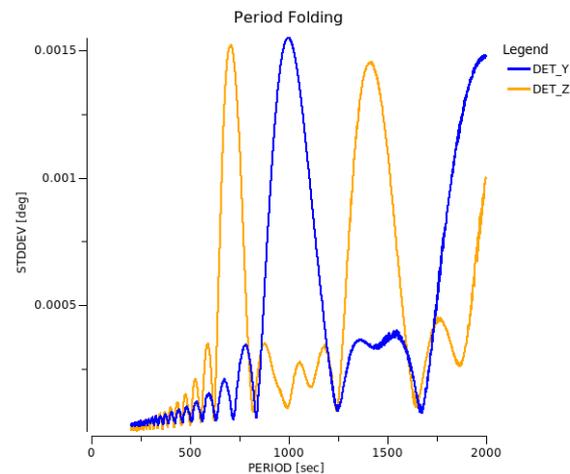
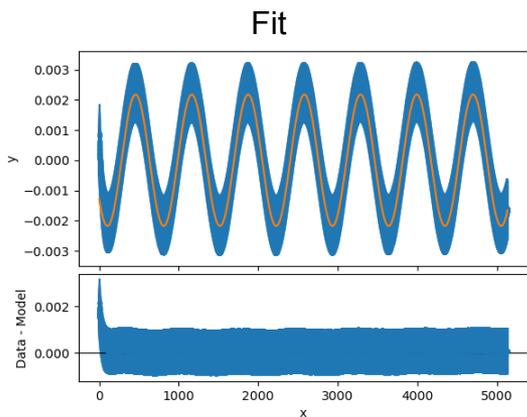
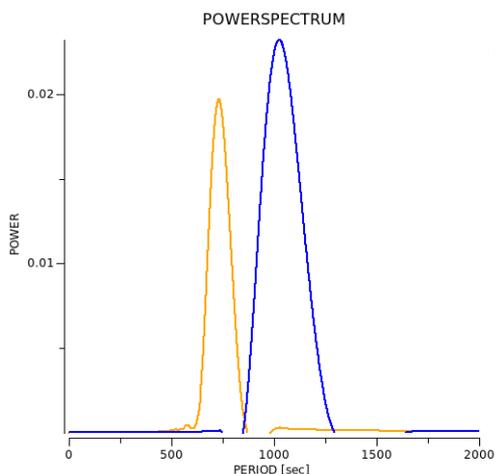
The commanded dither parameters are at best not easily available in any data products. The planned values are available from OCAT/Chaser though in a few instances they are incorrect.

This script analyzes the aspect solution to compute the observed dither amplitude and period and sends the results to the screen.

```
Results:
          Amplitude      Period
          [arcsec]       [sec]
DETY      8.241          1000.000
DETZ      8.284          708.000
```



Different Algorithms



Algorithm	Pros	Cons
Powerspectrum (FFT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fastest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Least accurate
FIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Most accurate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Generally slowest (by a lot)
FOLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Highly accurate (generally +/- 5sec)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Can be slower than fitting for short observations.

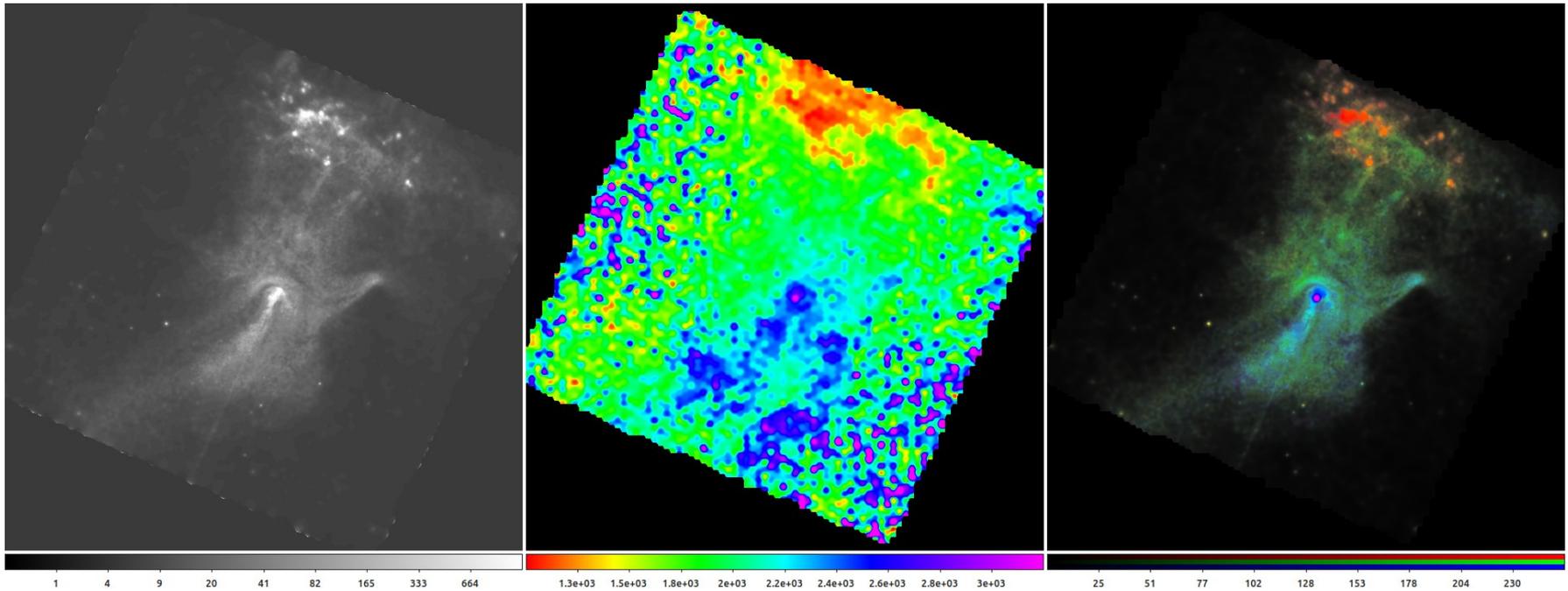


energy_hue_map

(Work in progress)

Evaluating a technique to create "true" color images, not "tri-color" image.

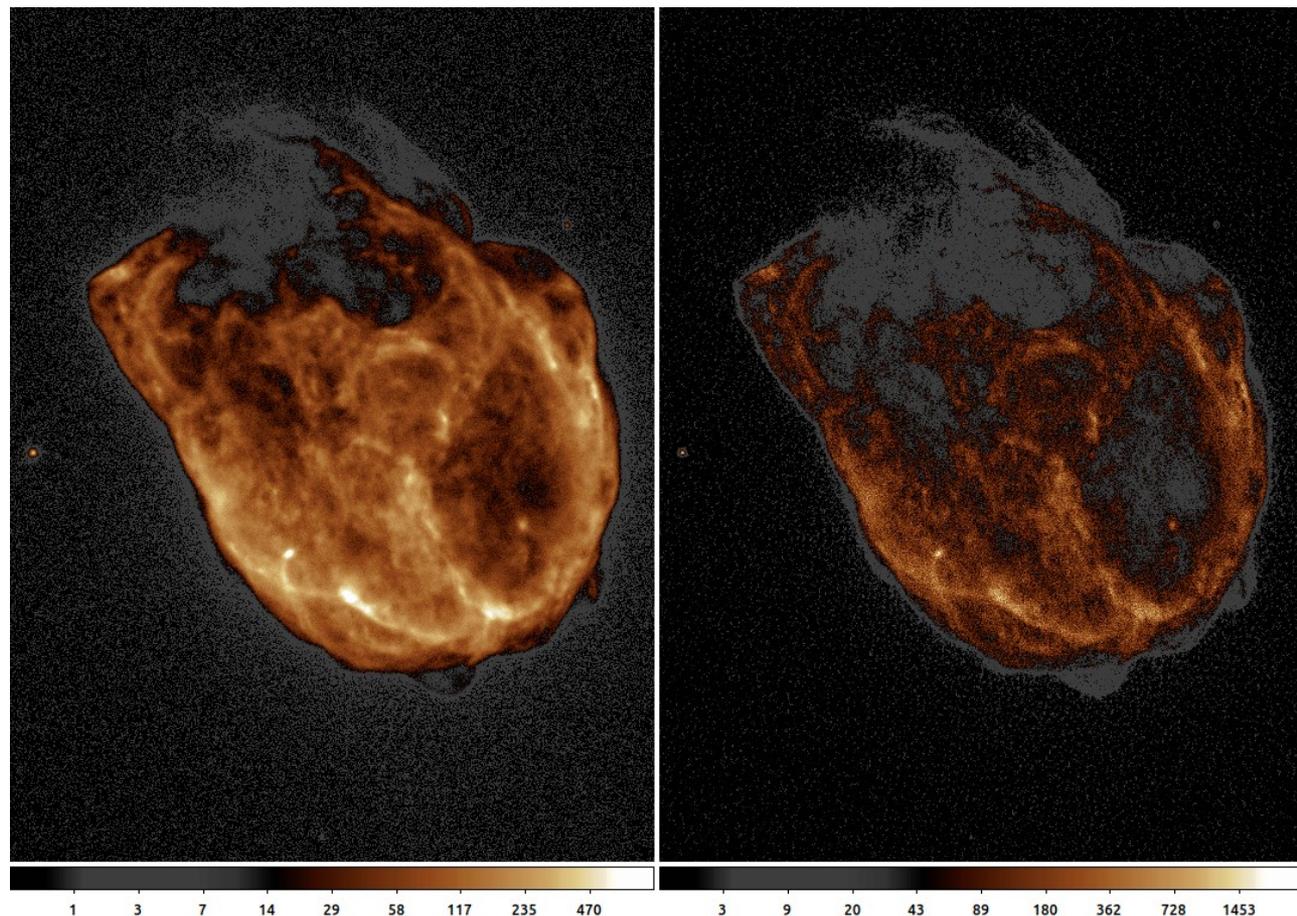
Using the mean-energy map as the color hue and the counts as the saturation we can combine them to create "true" color images.





Continuous Variable PSF deconvolution

Evaluating a method to perform Richardson-Lucy deconvolution with a continuously variable PSF (no partitioning of the image into quasi-constant PSF grid). Results look promising, few details TBR.



Results from combined 31 observations of N132D



specextract

(Scripts 4.15.0, 4.15.2, 4.15.3)

- Rewrite introduced with Contributed Scripts 4.15.0.
 - The original S-Lang to Python conversion of the script has become unwieldy with ad hoc functionality and bug fixes jerry-rigged to the existing code.
 - In the old version, tasks progressed in a linear fashion and were looped over in a single routine
 - Now, tasks are broken down into discrete functions for easier maintainability. This also simplifies parallelization.
 - utilities and lower-level routines moved off into a callable module.
 - front-load parameter testing and input file validations, mostly introduced over the course of CIAO 4.14.
- Update intended to be transparent to users (for the most part).
 - `resp_pos` parameter added
 - `parallel_futures` method added



specextract – response positioning

The `resp_pos` parameter has been added. It provides the method to refine the unweighted response position and to determine the coordinates used to query `ColDen` for the Galactic neutral hydrogen column density if reference coordinates are not set by the `refcoord` parameter.

- `region` – the center from the user-defined extraction region, the default behavior currently
- `max - prior` `specextract` behavior used the location of the brightest image pixel encompassed by the extraction region.
- `centroid` – the centroided position based on the image pixels encompassed by the extraction region. This method can fail, particularly if used with annuli, and another method must be selected.
- `regextent` – the center of the bounding box encompassing the extent of the extraction region.



The motivation for `resp_pos`

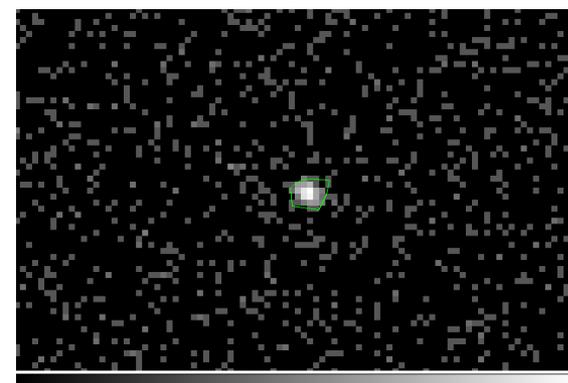
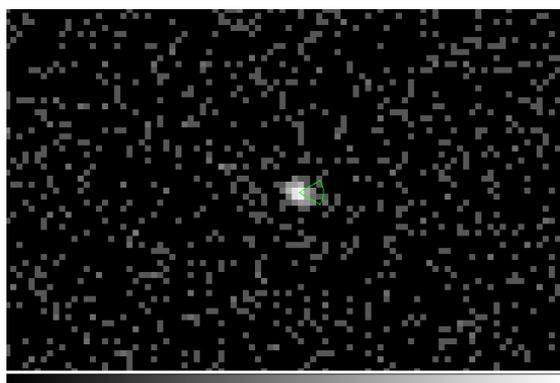
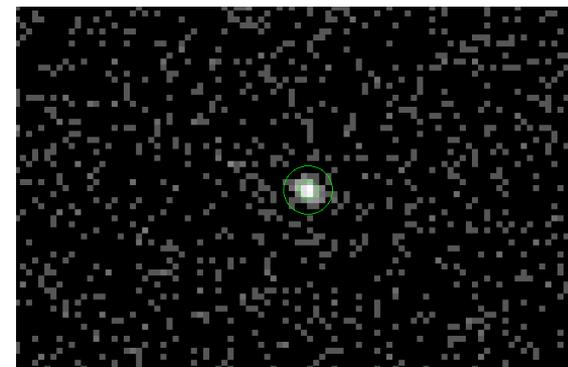
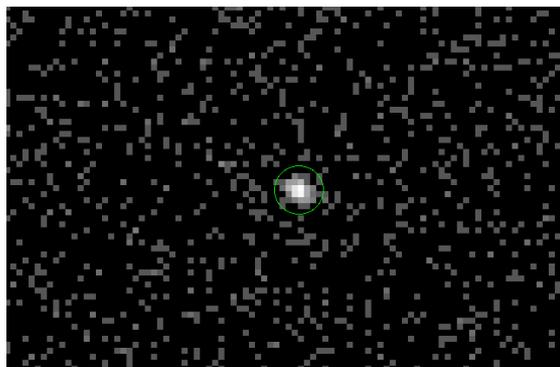
- For most use cases with most regions a small shift in the input coordinates will not significantly affect the ARF, even near chip edges and bad pixels.
 - If PSF aperture correction is applied to the ARF, the same “location-of-max” (`resp_pos=max`) algorithm is used to compute the coordinates used as the location of the PSF via `arfcorr`, where a small shift in the input coordinates can yield large differences in the PSF fraction.
-



Effect of `resp_pos` algorithms

Example: ObsID 4425
point-like source near
the ACIS-S3 aim point

- Reference
Coordinates
 $RA = 11:33:04.9245$
 $Dec = +25:53:55.242$
- circle, annulus, pie
sector, polygon
regions all defined
w.r.t. reference
coordinates

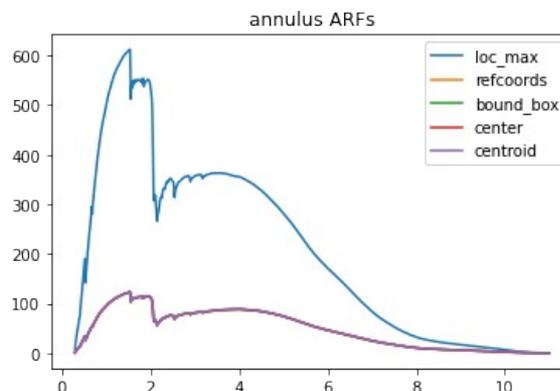
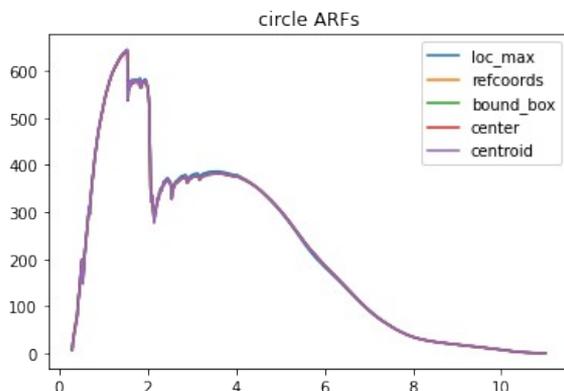




resp_pos effects on aperture correction

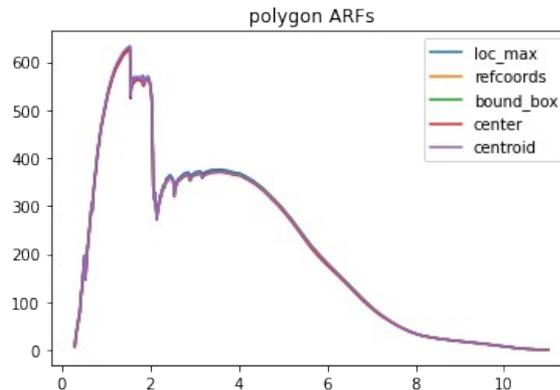
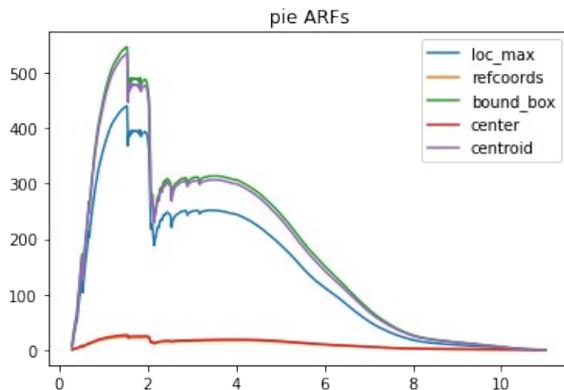
For regions where the center of the PSF is intentionally omitted (e.g. an annulus to avoid a piled up core), a position shift can lead to the wrong PSF fraction.

any method will work with a simple circle



the only algorithm that performs poorly is the current max location.

the pie region demonstrates how much of an affect a small 1-2 pixel shift can make



for this polygon, the results are all about the same. Similar to the circle, since the center is close to the best position, and overall the shape encloses a large fraction of the PSF



specextract parallelization

- parallelization first introduced in Contributed Scripts 4.14.0, but over time there were sporadic reports of failures in response generation and writing header keywords (via `srcflux` or directly running `specextract`)
 - difficult to replicate since it would randomly occur or might occur on one system but not another using the same OS.
 - problem traced to how tasks were being scheduled to the job queue by the existing parallelization methods in CIAO and not being cleared out of the queue quickly enough upon completion.
 - In particular, the `parallel_pool` method would hang if there are a large number of jobs (>500) queued up, which is not the typical usage of `specextract` by most users, even if the calculation is simple, e.g. `x**2`. The limit is nebulous, since it varies by hardware and OS.
 - `parallel_pool_futures` is a new wrapper to Python's `concurrent.futures` package, which is a contemporary approach to parallelization which has improved scheduling for the job queue.
-



specextract parallelization (cont.)

- n.b. there is overhead to scheduling:
 - for a set of simple calculations, `parallel_pool/parallel_map` (the latter is used by *Sherpa*) will be faster than `parallel_futures`, if it does not run into the queuing limit due to its primitive scheduler.
 - it is also possible that by avoiding the job scheduling process, performing the set of calculations sequentially will be quicker than running in parallel.
 - The bottleneck in `specextract` parallelization was response generation, which calculated ARFs then RMFs for source then background.
 - the problem is most acute when generating weighted RMFs (and ARFs) over large areas for both source and background.
 - the rewrite addresses this since there is no reason why the source/background and ARFs/RMFs cannot all be generated independently of each other.
 - modifications gradually introduced in 4.14.1 and fully integrated for 4.15.0
 - File I/O redundancies inherent to the original parallelization implementation, for simplification purposes, have been eliminated.
-



Special Topic: ACIS Extract – Filling the Gaps

Following up from last CUC report: The Chandra User's Committee asked that the CXC provide the functional currently available in the `acis_extract` script written by the ACIS IPI team. SDS reviewed the script and noted that the existing `srcflux` script provides much of the same basic functionality. There were a few gaps that have now been filled:

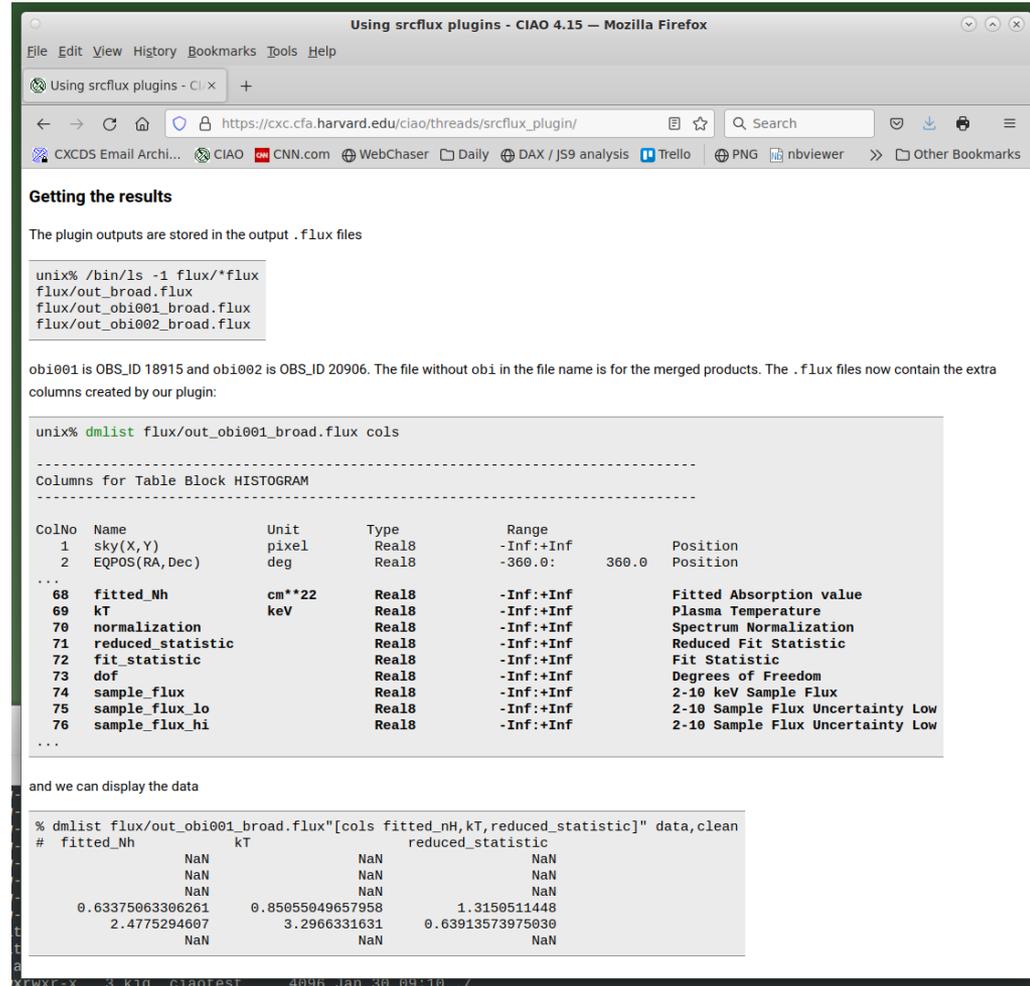
- Automatically fitting spectra
- "Optimized" source regions based on simulated PSF
- Background with predetermined number of counts



srcflux plugins

Allows users to include additional analysis steps, including fitting spectra, and have the results be collected with the other srcflux properties.

Users are provided with several examples including spectral fits, timing analysis, computing source extent, upper limits using the new aplimits scripts, etc.



```
unix% /bin/ls -l flux/*flux
flux/out_broad.flux
flux/out_obi001_broad.flux
flux/out_obi002_broad.flux
```

obi001 is OBS_ID 18915 and obi002 is OBS_ID 20906. The file without obi in the file name is for the merged products. The .flux files now contain the extra columns created by our plugin:

```
unix% dmlist flux/out_obi001_broad.flux cols
```

ColNo	Name	Unit	Type	Range		
1	sky(X,Y)	pixel	Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Position
2	EQPOS(RA,Dec)	deg	Real8	-360.0:	360.0	Position
...						
68	fitted_Nh	cm**22	Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Fitted Absorption value
69	KT	keV	Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Plasma Temperature
70	normalization		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Spectrum Normalization
71	reduced_statistic		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Reduced Fit Statistic
72	fit_statistic		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Fit Statistic
73	dof		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		Degrees of Freedom
74	sample_flux		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		2-10 keV Sample Flux
75	sample_flux_lo		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		2-10 Sample Flux Uncertainty Low
76	sample_flux_hi		Real8	-Inf:+Inf		2-10 Sample Flux Uncertainty Low
...						

and we can display the data

```
% dmlist flux/out_obi001_broad.flux'[cols fitted_nh,kt,reduced_statistic]' data,clean
# fitted_Nh      KT      reduced_statistic
      NaN      NaN      NaN
      NaN      NaN      NaN
      NaN      NaN      NaN
0.63375063306261  0.85055049657958  1.3150511448
2.4775294607     3.2966331631  0.63913573975030
      NaN      NaN      NaN
```

https://cxc.cfa.harvard.edu/ciao/threads/srcflux_plugin/



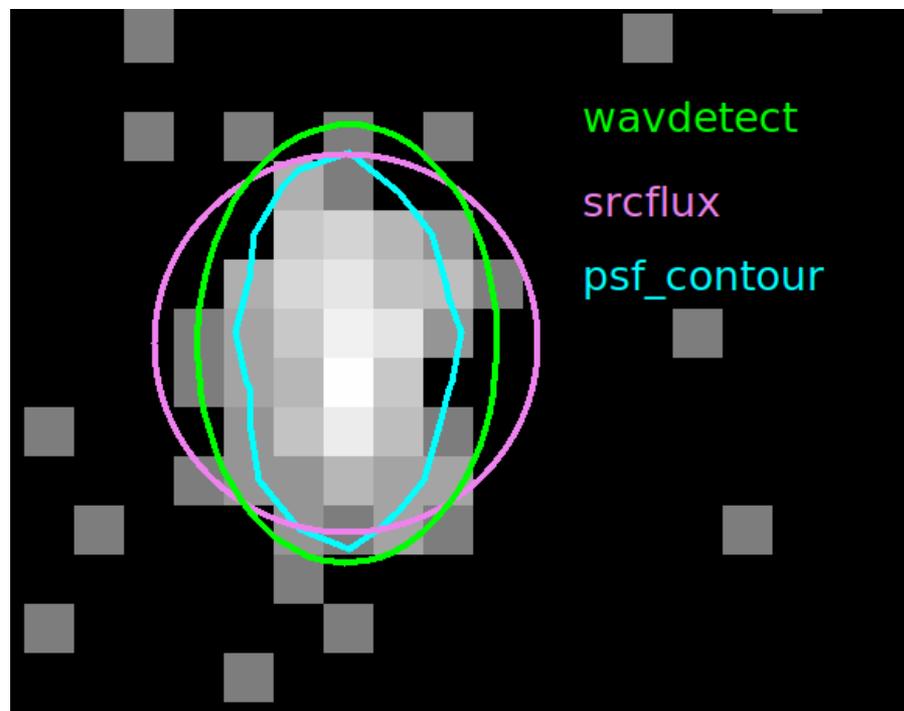
psf_contour

(Scripts 4.15.2)

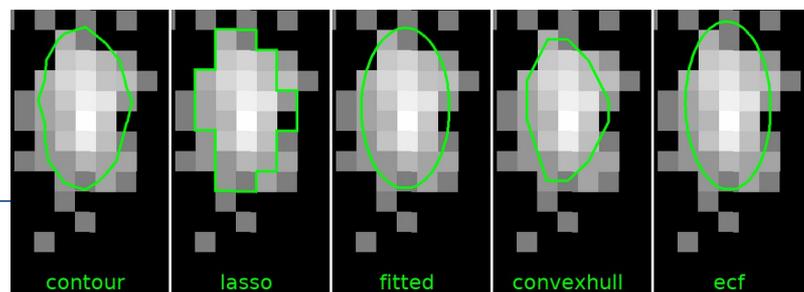
New script that simulates the PSF at each source locations using MARX and calculates a region that encloses a specified ECF.

Overlapping regions are shrunk until they no longer overlap (or threshold is met)

Has options to create polygon contour, city-block "lasso" contour, ellipse fitted to contour, convex hull around contour, or ellipse determined from PSF.



Example requesting region to enclose 90% of the PSF @ 1.0keV.





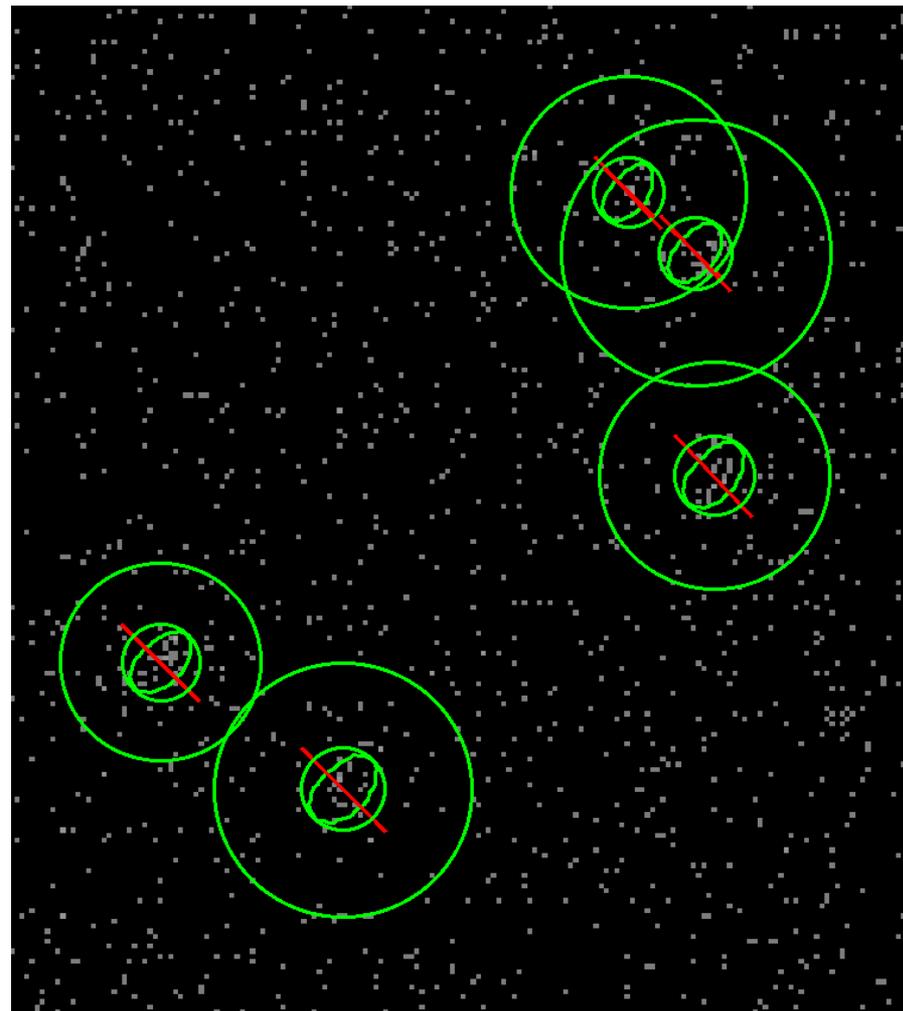
bkg_fixed_counts

(Scripts 4.15.2)

Create background annuli excluding sources that enclose a specified number of counts.

FOV file can be input to accounts for edges. Readout streak region can also be input to be excluded from background.

This example uses the contour polygons from `psf_contour` as the source regions. They are excluded from the background annulus whose inner radius is 95% PSF ECF @ 1.0 keV and outer radius enclosed 50 counts.





Sherpa



Sherpa Development 2023



- Sherpa 2023 releases:
 - 4.15.1 May 18, 2023
 - 4.15.2 planned for October 10, 2023
 - CIAO 4.16 release in December 2023 will include the changes from both releases.
- 4.15.1 May 2023 Release highlights:
 - Enhancements:
 - further improvements to filtering/grouping including reporting a filter change in the UI
 - fake_pha can be called with a list of ARF/RMF names
 - added linewidth option for line and histogram plots
 - Documentation changes:
 - improved documentation for templates, plot_pvalue
 - Infrastructure changes:
 - dropped support for Python 3.8
 - experimental support of Python 3.11
 - supported versions of Xspec are 12.12.0 - 12.13.0
 - Several bug fixes:
 - various updates to notice/ignore and group/ungroup code
 - fixed issue with show_bkg, binning in 1D histogram, cache errors in TableModel class
- 44 Sherpa Pull Requests (PR) including 12 bug fixes.

Full Release Notes:

- <https://github.com/sherpa/sherpa/releases>
- <https://zenodo.org/record/7948720>



Sherpa 2023 Development for 4.16



Details, including code changes and issues, are available on GitHub: <https://github.com/sherpa/sherpa>

System updates

- add python 3.11, drop python 3.8 (work to support Python 3.12 and NumPy 2.0 not in 4.16)
- add support for XSPEC 12.13.0 and 12.13.1 (CIAO 4.16 will include XSPEC 12.13.1)
- continued update of code to use modern Python features and capabilities

Filtering and grouping

- notice/ignore reports changes in energy filter (4.15) and this has now been extended to grouping and `set_analysis` commands
- `group_counts/snr/...` commands automatically use the existing filter to restrict the domain of the grouping

Plotting

- work to allow multiple plotting backends (such as for example newer HTML/JavaScript frameworks)
- plan to include a bokeh backend (<https://bokeh.org/>) in 4.16 which support interactive plots in notebooks
- as part of this work addressed a few outstanding issues

Simulations

- a number of changes related to simulation: fixes to `fake_pha`, improving RMF creation, and writing out ARF and RMF files.
- ongoing work to rationalize the use of random numbers and to take advantage of changes in NumPy

Data flow

- improvements to data serialization, both for the "save to a Python script" `save_all` command and the binary format used by `save` and `restore`, and other minor fixes for users of the various `save_xxx` commands

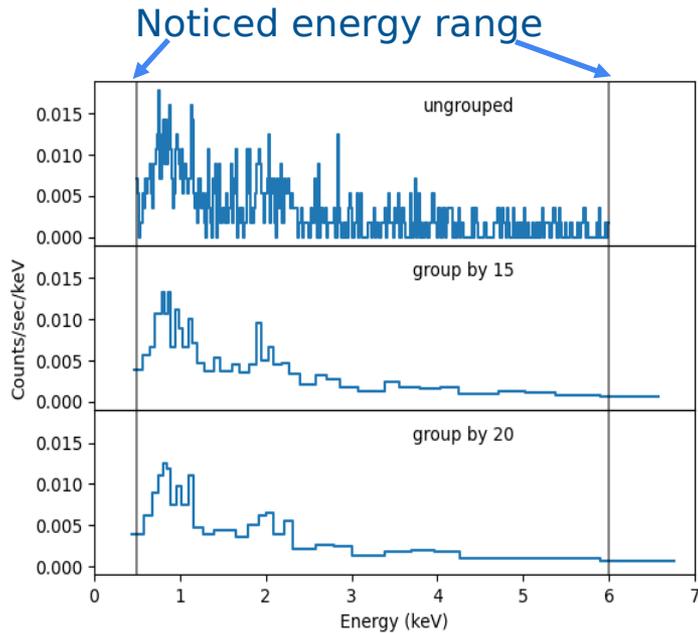
Documentation

- to ensure the documentation for Sherpa is valid, add support for "documentation tests", where the code snippets used as examples in the documentation are included in our automated tests (this is a large project and only some examples are currently tested)



Sherpa 2023 Development for 4.16

group_counts/snr/... commands automatically use the existing filter to restrict the domain of the grouping



CIAO 4.15: Filter can change when grouping changed

```
In [20]: notice(0.5, 6)  
dataset 1: 0.00146:14.9504 -> 0.4672:6.57 Energy (keV)  
In [21]: group_counts(20)  
dataset 1: 0.4672:6.57 -> 0.438:6.7598 Energy (keV)
```

CIAO 4.16: Keep the filter unchanged when grouping

```
In [26]: ungroup()  
dataset 1: 0.00146:14.9504 Energy (keV)  
(unchanged)  
In [27]: notice(0.5, 6)  
dataset 1: 0.00146:14.9504 -> 0.4964:6.0006  
Energy (keV)  
In [28]: group_counts(15)  
dataset 1: 0.4964:6.0006 Energy (keV) (unchanged)  
In [29]: group_counts(20)  
dataset 1: 0.4964:6.0006 Energy (keV) (unchanged)
```



Using Sherpa in Astronomy Research

1559 publications in ApJ, AJ, MNRAS, A&A and others use Sherpa (since 2001 and including astro-ph abstracts)

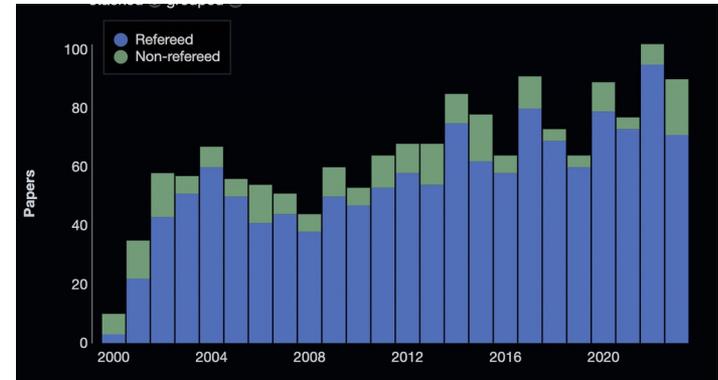
<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/public-libraries/X6orMXwpRtSPy8x1uiiRMg>

419 citations to Freeman et al 2001 SPIE paper

24 citations to zenodo releases: DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.593753](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.593753)

89 research papers published in 2023

7 PhD theses listed in ADS that used Sherpa



Statistics from ADS stats



Using Sherpa in Astronomy Research

Paper Network in ADS for 400 papers published in 2016-2023





Instruments/ Gratings



CTI Changes in acis_process_events



acis_process_events is being updated in DS 10.12 and CIAO 4.16 for compatibility with new ACIS CTI calibration products in anticipation of ACIS operating at warmer focal plane temperatures. Calibrated data products at warm focal plane temperatures and their implementation in CIAO can help relax observing constraints allowing mission planning more flexibility for scheduling. These changes will mostly affect future observations rather than archival data



CTI Changes in acis_process_events



CALDB CTI
Table -
current format

TOPCAT(64): Table Browser

Table Browser for 64: acisD2020-01-01ctiN0009.fits

	CCD_ID	CHIPX_LO	CHIPX_HI	CHIPY_LO	CHIPY_HI	NPOINTS	PHA	VOLUME_X	VOLUME_Y	FRCTRLX	FRCTRLY	VFT
1	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.44173...	0.	0.067479	0.
2	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.45142...	0.	0.040883	0.
3	2	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.42553...	0.	0.089617	0.
4	3	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.44428...	0.	0.079609	0.
5	4	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.42887...	0.	0.129248	0.
6	5	1	1024	1	1024	45	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(1.0, 1.499633...	(1.0, 1.08343...	0.13	0.713325	0.
7	6	1	1024	1	1024	45	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.48920...	0.	0.042733	0.
8	7	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(1.0, 1.444909...	(1.0, 1.22429...	0.094107	0.560725	0.
9	8	1	1024	1	1024	45	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.48680...	0.	0.062289	0.
10	9	1	1024	1	1024	46	(1.0, 2.0, ...	(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.45976...	0.	0.073173	0.

Total: 10 Visible: 10 Selected: 0

CALDB CTI
Table -
new format
CIAO 4.16/
DS10.1

TOPCAT(66): Table Browser

Table Browser for 66: CTI_newformat_newObsIDs.fits

	CCD_ID	CHIPX_LO	CHIPX_HI	CHIPY_LO	CHIPY_HI	NPOINTS	TEMP_LO	TEMP_HI	TEMP_IND	PHA	VOLUME_X	VOLUME_Y	VFT
1	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	148.	161.16	1	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.44173...	0.
2	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	161.16	162.9	2	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.45142...	0.
3	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	162.9	164.65	3	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.42553...	0.
4	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	164.65	166.4	4	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.44428...	0.
5	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	166.4	168.15	5	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.42887...	0.
6	0	1	1024	1	1024	46	168.15	170.	6	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.499633...	0.13
7	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	148.	161.16	1	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.48920...	0.
8	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	161.16	162.9	2	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.444909...	0.094107
9	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	162.9	164.65	3	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.48680...	0.
10	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	164.65	166.4	4	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.45976...	0.
11	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	166.4	168.15	5	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.44173...	0.
12	1	1	1024	1	1024	46	168.15	170.	6	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.45142...	0.
13	2	1	1024	1	1024	46	148.	161.16	1	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.42553...	0.
14	2	1	1024	1	1024	46	161.16	162.9	2	(1.0, 2...	(0.0, 0.0, ...	(1.0, 1.44428...	0.

Total: 60 Visible: 60 Selected: 0

The new temp_lo, temp_hi and temp_ind columns allow events within an FP_TEMP range to be treated with a specific correction for CTI without changing the general CTI correction format. Note: values shown are illustrative.



PSF



ChaRT

ChaRT Usage per Month

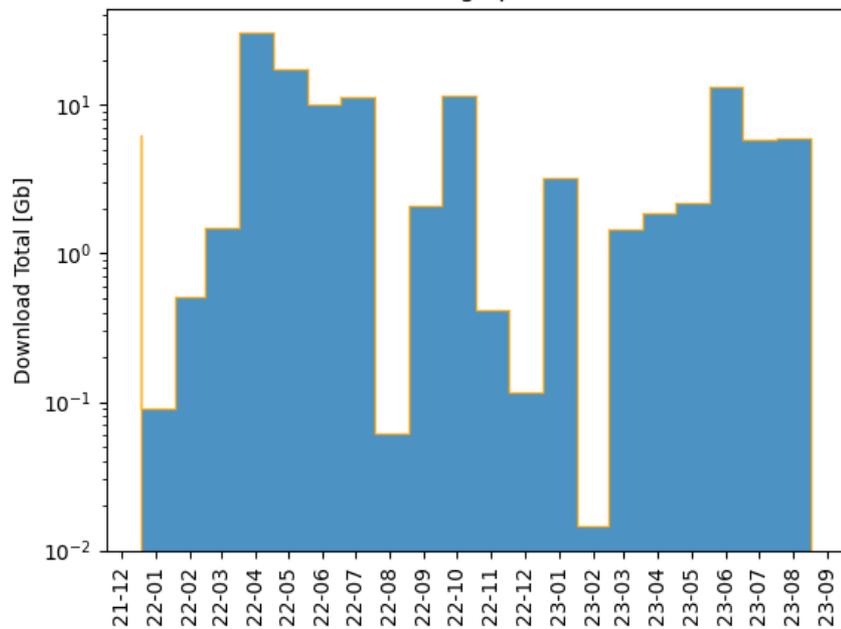


ChaRT Usage per Month

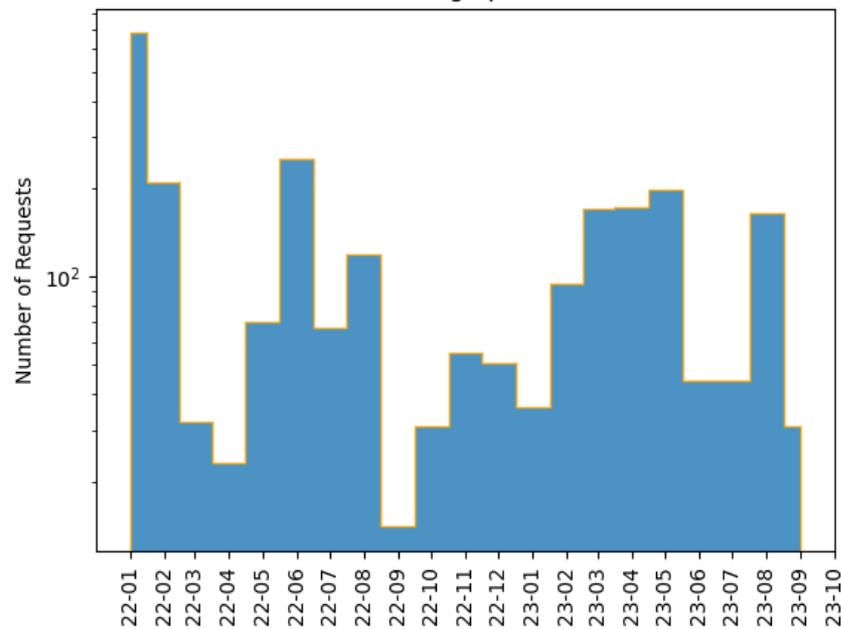


ChaRT web server has been updated to Red Hat 8, CIAO 4.15, and SAOTrace 2.0.5.



New LSFARM files to be made with marx

HETG

LETG

ACIS		HRC	
ACIS-I 1	ACIS-S 1648	HRC-I 3	HRC-S 0

ACIS		HRC	
ACIS-I 0	ACIS-S 94	HRC-I 5	HRC-S 440

Number of
OBSIDs using
this config

Given high ACIS
contamination,
HETG+HRC has a new
use case for high-res
spectra of soft sources

LSFPARM files now exist

LSFPARM files still to be made



Visualization





SAOImageDS9

- Releases
 - Version 8.4 - released in Dec 2022 with CIAO 4.15
 - Version 8.5b1 - released in Feb 2023
 - Version 8.5b2 - release in Aug 2023
 - Version 8.5 - released in Sep 2023
- New Features 8.5
 - New Internal IVO SAMP HUB
 - New Internal IVO SAMP Web HUB
 - Improved IVO SAMP Client support
 - MacOS Ventura and Monterey ARM64 ports
 - New Debian, Ubuntu, Fedora ARM64 ports
 - Many improvements and enhancements.



SAOImageDS9 Internal SAMP Hub



Example: using DS9 to exchange VOTable data with TOPCAT; now using internal DS9 SAMP HUB to communicate between programs. Internal hub capability will allow interface with astropy without using (obsolescent) XPA.

SAOImage ds9

File Edit View Frame Bin Zoom Scale Color Region WCS Illustrate Analysis Help

File: img.fits

Object: TT_HST3728A[1/4]

Value: []

WCS: [] []

Physical: x [] y []

Image: x [] y []

Frame 1: x [1] [0]

file edit view frame bin zoom scale color region wcs illustrate analysis help

linear log power sqrt squared asinh sinh histogram min max zscale

5.7 12 19 26 33 39 46 53 59

2MASS Point Sources

File Edit Catalog Server Name Server Symbol Preferences

Catalog: 2MASS Point Sources

Identification: II/246/out

Reference: 2mass

Object: Name: []

α: 13:29:55.3009 δ: +47:11:37.729 fK5 Update

Radius: 1.8675575 arcmin

Table: Filter: [] Edit: []

Sort: Max Rows: 5000

Table Browser for 1: 2MASS Point Sources

	_RAJ2000	_DEJ2000	RAJ2000	DEJ2000	2MASS	Jmag	e_Jmag
1	202.48919	47.17913	202.48919	47.17913	13295740+4710448	15.797	0.0
2	202.48563	47.1795	202.48563	47.1795	13295655+4710462	15.222	0.0
3	202.48573	47.17905	202.48573	47.17905	13295658+4710445	16.024	0.0
4	202.47574	47.17707	202.47574	47.17707	13295418+4710374	16.69	0.0
5	202.48064	47.16803	202.48064	47.16803	13295535+4710049	12.86	0.0
6	202.47159	47.17843	202.47159	47.17843	13295318+4710423	15.842	0.0
7	202.47515	47.18251	202.47515	47.18251	13295403+4710570	16.327	0.0
8	202.44176	47.17994	202.44176	47.17994	13294602+4710477	12.261	0.0
9	202.46067	47.16865	202.46067	47.16865	13295056+4710071	16.797	0.0
10	202.49538	47.18459	202.49538	47.18459	13295889+4711045	16.235	0.0
11	202.47199	47.19021	202.47199	47.19021	13295327+4711247	14.998	0.0
12	202.47495	47.19433	202.47495	47.19433	13295398+4711395	14.133	0.0
13	202.47405	47.19329	202.47405	47.19329	13295377+4711358	14.092	0.0
14	202.47266	47.19235	202.47266	47.19235	13295343+4711324	12.212	0.0
15	202.47364	47.19078	202.47364	47.19078	13295367+4711268	14.67	0.0

Status: Done

Total: 70 Visible: 70 Selected: 0

Retrieve Cancel Filter Clear SAMP Plot Close

TOPCAT

Table List: 1: 2MASS Point Sources

Current Table Properties

Label: 2MASS Point Sources

Location: Hub:2MASS Point Sources

Name: 2MASS Point Sources

Rows: 70

Columns: 17

Sort Order: []

Row Subset: All

Activation Actions: 1 / 6

SAMP

Messages: [] Clients: []

65 / 3641 M



SAOImageDS9 Illustrate Mode

File Edit View Frame Bin Zoom Scale Color Region WCS Illustrate Analysis Help

File: img.fits
Object: TT_HST3728A[1/4]
Value: 31
FK5: α 13:29:55.9768 δ +47:11:34.775
Physical: x 769 y 731
Image: x 385 y 366
Frame 1: x 1 y 0

file edit view frame bin zoom scale color region wcs illustrate analysis help
none region cross colorbar pan zoom rotate crop cat fp exam 3d illustrate

Episode IV
A NEW HOPE

It is a period of civil war. Rebel spaceships, striking from a hidden base, have won their first victory against the evil Galactic Empire.

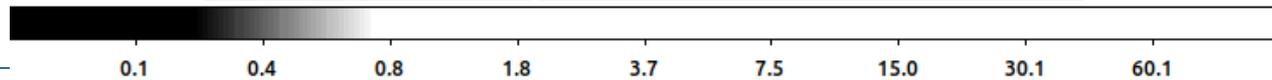
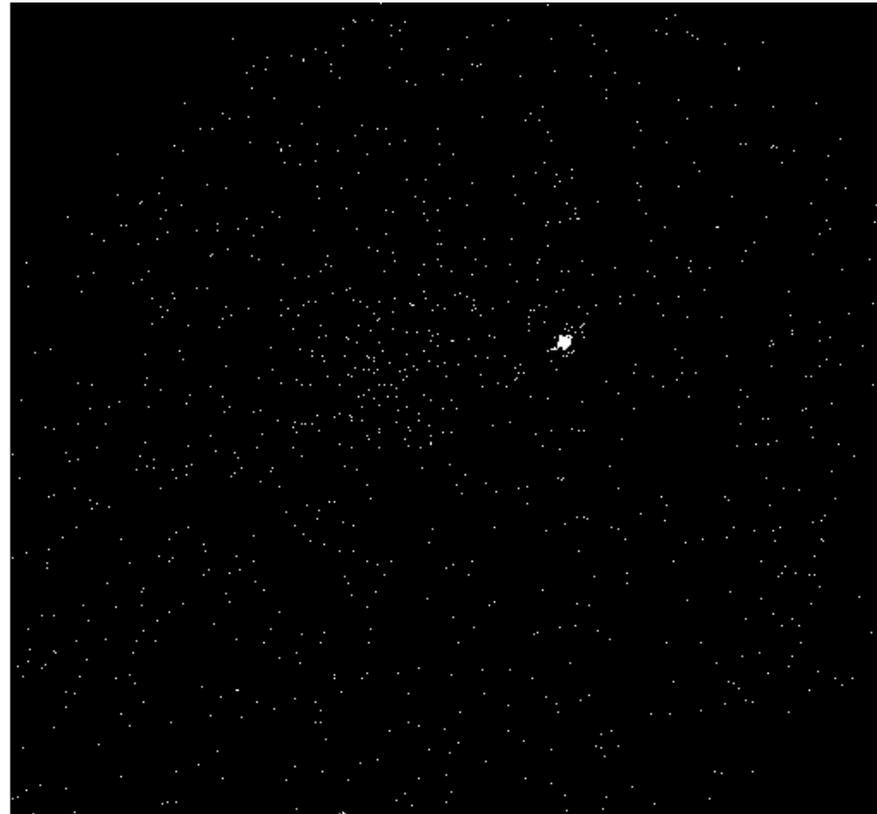
During the battle, Rebel spies managed to steal secret plans to the Empire's ultimate weapon, the DEATH STAR, an armored space station with enough power to destroy an entire planet.

Pursued by the Empire's sinister agents, Princess Leia races home aboard her starship, custodian of the stolen plans that can save her people and restore freedom to the galaxy....

-7 0 14 41 95 202 415 846 1697



SAOImageDS9 Fade Mode





SAOImageDS9 - Nov 2022 to Oct 2023

- **GitHub Activity**
 - 292 Commits
 - 51 Release Note Entries
- **Help Desk**
 - 95 CXC HelpDesk Requests
- **Downloads**
 - 29686 unique IP addresses



Advanced Development: Remote Analysis Prototype

Evaluating potential for users to run CIAO remotely via DS9 based on DAX – increasing demand for such a capability to support e.g. undergrads on Windows machines. Users only need to install ds9. Analysis is done remotely with results sent back for display/download. Tasks include

- Plots: Spectra, Lightcurve, Radial Profiles, Generic histograms
- Text: Net Counts, Photometry (srcflux), statistics (min/max/mean)
- Regions: wavdetect, celldetect, etc
- Images: eg csmooth, adaptive binning
- Fitting: spectra, images, radial profiles.

