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 AHELP for CIAO 3.4

## set\_weights

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### Synopsis

Module functions for assigning source and background statistical weights.

### Syntax

```
Integer_Type set_weights([Integer_Type,]Array_Type)
Integer_Type set_bweights([Integer_Type,]Array_Type)
```

Success/Error Return Values: 1/0

Arguments:

- (1) Dataset number (default 1)
- (2) An array of source/background statistical weight settings

Note that if only one argument is provided, it is assumed to be an array, and the dataset is assumed to be dataset 1.

### Description

The `set_weights` and `set_bweights` functions allow the user to assign new source and background statistical weight values to Sherpa datasets. The default value of a statistical weight is 1, meaning the all data bins have equal influence in the calculation of a statistic. A weight less than 1 decreases a bin's contribution to the total statistic value; a weight greater than 1 increases the contribution.

Note that:

- the input array length must match the number of bins in the filtered dataset; consequently, if one's goal is to use these functions in data manipulation, it is important not to change the filter in Sherpa between any call to, e.g., `get_weight` and `set_weight`!
- the input array is typecast to match the type of its associated dataspace (see, e.g., `set_axes` for a definition of dataspace). For instance, if dataset 3 is of `Double_Type`, then when `set_weight(3,<array>)` is run, the array is typecast to `Double_Type` if necessary.

See the related Sherpa command READ WEIGHTS for more information.

## Example

Change the statistical weights of the lowest-value bins in a dataset to reduce the influence of these bins in a statistic calculation:

```

sherpa> DATA spec.dat
sherpa> SOURCE = CONST[cs]
sherpa> FIT
LVMQT: V2.0
LVMQT: initial statistic value = 82.2297
LVMQT: final statistic value = 63.9111 at iteration 3
      cs.c0  57.7977

sherpa> d = get_data(1)
sherpa> d[*] = 1
sherpa> d[[0:5]] = 0.5
sherpa> printarr(d,10)
0.5
0.5
0.5
0.5
0.5
0.5
1
1
...
sherpa> set_weights(1,d)
1
sherpa> FIT
LVMQT: V2.0
LVMQT: initial statistic value = 61.7966
LVMQT: final statistic value = 61.7912 at iteration 2
      cs.c0  57.8627

```

In this example, data are read into Sherpa and the counts amplitude array is retrieved using `get_data`. Every element of this array is reset to 1, then the first six elements are reset to 0.5. The array is then sent to Sherpa, where it overwrites the old weight array; the subsequent fit shows a slight change.

## Bugs

See the [Sherpa bug pages](#) online for an up-to-date listing of known bugs.

## See Also

*chandra*

[guide](#)

*sherpa*

[autoest](#), [back](#), [berrors](#), [bsyserrors](#), [coord](#), [data](#), [dataspace](#), [fakeit](#), [feffile](#), [group](#), [guess](#), [is\\_subtracted](#), [load](#), [load\\_arf](#), [load\\_ascii](#), [load\\_back\\_from](#), [load\\_backset](#), [load\\_dataset](#), [load\\_fitsbin](#), [load\\_image](#), [load\\_inst](#), [load\\_inst\\_from](#), [load pha](#), [load pha2](#), [load rmf](#), [read](#), [set\\_analysis](#), [set\\_axes](#), [set\\_backscale](#), [set\\_coord](#), [set\\_data](#), [set\\_exptime](#), [set\\_subtract](#), [setback](#), [setdata](#), [subtract](#), [ungroup](#), [unsubtract](#), [use](#)

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URL:  
[http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/set\\_weights.html](http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/set_weights.html)  
Last modified: December 2006

