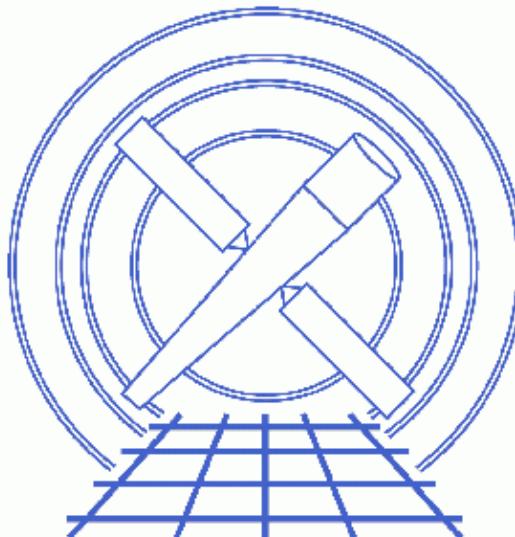


How to Download Chandra Data from the Archive



CIAO 3.4 Science Threads

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How to Download Chandra Data from the Archive

CIAO 3.4 Science Threads

Overview

Last Update: 1 Dec 2006 – reviewed for CIAO 3.4: no changes

Synopsis:

ChaSeR is a graphical user interface for browsing and/or obtaining data from the [Chandra Data Archive](#). The Archive contains over 800 public-domain datasets, which consist of all observations for which the proprietary period has expired, as well as calibration data. Note that proprietary data may also be accessed via *ChaSeR*, but it is password-protected from the general community.

Purpose:

To download ObsID 1843 (ACIS-I, G21.5–0.9), which is used in all of the [Introductory CIAO Threads](#).

Proceed to the [HTML](#) or hardcopy (PDF: A4 / letter) version of the thread.

Launching ChaSeR

Before beginning, [download](#) and install the Java application.

Once installed, launch *ChaSeR* from the command line:

```
unix% chaser &
```

Figure 1 shows the GUI that will appear.

WebChaSeR

If you do not wish to install *ChaSeR*, data may still be obtained through [WebChaSeR](#), a web version of *ChaSeR*. While it has the same search capabilities as *ChaSeR*, it is not possible to select individual files for download. Using this interface, you can only select complete packages of primary and secondary products; see the ["Select"](#) step for information on the different packages.

Due to the slightly different functionality, portions of this thread – mainly the [Three Steps to Using ChaSeR section](#) – do not apply to users of *WebChaSeR*. The two applications are similar enough, however, that the thread may serve as a helpful guide.

The Three Steps to Using ChaSeR

Using *ChaSeR* to obtain data is a simple 3-step process:

1. Browse

Chandra Archive data may be browsed using any of the fields in the *ChaSeR* GUI, such as Instrument, Grating, ObsID, and Category. Since we are interested in an ACIS-I observation of G21.5–0.9, leave only the appropriate Instrument (ACIS-I) and Grating (NONE) options checked and enter the Target Name.

[Figure 2](#) shows the completed form. Click the "Submit" button to enter the request.

2. Select

The Search Results window brings up all the observations that match our search criteria, as shown in [Figure 3](#) . The "Order By..." menu can be used to sort the results; here we have ordered them by "Observation ID."

Click on ObsID 1843 to highlight the row. After doing so one may:

- Use the "Detail" button to display specifics about the observation; [Figure 4](#) .
- Click on the "Images" button to see preview images; [Figure 5](#) .
- Write the table information to a file ("Save").

Now the desired data products may be selected for download using the "Select primary products", "Select secondary products", and "Select supporting products" buttons.

The data products are arranged such that all products necessary for most analyses (e.g. the CIAO threads) are in the primary directory. If you are interested in reprocessing your data, you will also need the level 1 files, which are in the secondary directory. Each of the threads also includes a list of the files needed to complete it.

By default, all primary and secondary products are pre-selected. If you are only interested in downloading the specific files need for a thread, but need some help determining what those are, check the [Standard Data Distribution Contents](#) webpage. [These tables](#) list the file extensions (aka "Type") and the "Content"; the content keyword is how the products are labeled in the *ChaSeR* interface.

The selections are submitted using the "Add to retrieval list" button. You can then highlight a different observation and add the same (or different) data products to the cart for it. Once you have selected all the data you are interested in, proceed to the [next step](#).

3. Retrieve

Click on "View retrieval list" to [view the observations and data products](#) submitted for selection.

One may [see the list of data filenames and sizes](#) by clicking on the "Browse selected products" button. The total file size of the package list is listed at the top of the screen; use this information when considering available disk space.

The "Retrieve selected products" button is used to start the retrieval process. The files are compiled into a tarred package which is placed onto the anonymous FTP server (cda.harvard.edu) by default; the tarfile can also be saved directly to a local disk. When the download is complete, the *ChaSeR* window will look as shown in [Figure 8](#) . Note that the location of the logfile (chaser.log) and the FTP directory in which

Download Chandra Data from the Archive – CIAO 3.4

the tarfile was placed are both given at the bottom of the screen.

The name and location of the tarfile is recorded in `chaser.log`, along with the ObsID that was downloaded:

```
unix% more ~/chaser.log
[16/06/2005 09:53:39:463 EDT] Request retrieval of 1843
[16/06/2005 09:53:40:041 EDT] File(s) package_0_030616095338.tar.* will be
available at http://pub/srftp/UoL7nEUA:
```

When you are finished with *ChaSeR*, use the "Exit" button to close the GUI.

FTP and Unpack the Data

Get the data from the anonymous FTP server; note that the location of the tarfile will be different for your observation:

```
unix% ftp cda.harvard.edu
Connected to cda.
220 cda FTP server (Version wu-2.6.1(1) Mon Aug 7 15:20:43 EDT 2000) ready.
Name (cda.harvard.edu:username): anonymous
331 Guest login ok, send your complete e-mail address as password.
Password:
230-
230-   Welcome to the FTP server at the CXC Science Center
230-
230-   This server is cda.harvard.edu
230-
230-If your FTP client crashes or hangs shortly after login please try
230-using a dash (-) as the first character of your password. This will
230-turn off the informational messages that may be confusing your FTP
230-client.
230-
230-Publicly available files are in /pub
230-
230-Problems with this ftp site? Contact cxcftp@head-cfa.harvard.edu
230-
230- +-----+
230- | PLEASE NOTE:          (ChaSeR users only)
230- |
230- | If the directory provided to you by ChaSeR appears
230- | to be empty, this is a sign that your tar file is
230- | not yet ready. Please try again in a little while.
230-
230- | If your directory seems to contain several tar
230- | files, e.g., file.tar.0, file.tar.1, ...
230- | retrieve all files, then untar as follows:
230- |     cat file.tar.* | tar xvf -
230- |
230- | We are limiting the size of individual files to
230- | less than 2 GB, but these files need to be
230- | concatenated before submitting them to tar.
230-
230- +-----+
230-
230 Guest login ok, access restrictions apply.

ftp> cd /pub/srftp/UoL7nEUA
250 CWD command successful.

ftp> binary
```

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```
200 Type set to I.

ftp> get package_0_030616095338.tar
200 PORT command successful.
150 Opening BINARY mode data connection for package_0_030616095338.tar (65309184 bytes).
226 Transfer complete.
local: package_0_030616095338.tar remote: package_0_030616095338.tar
65309184 bytes received in 1.3e+02 seconds (484.05 Kbytes/s)

ftp> bye
221-You have transferred 65309184 bytes in 1 files.
221-Total traffic for this session was 65311557 bytes in 2 transfers.
221-Thank you for using the FTP service on cda.
221 Goodbye.
```

Unpack the tarfile:

```
unix% tar xvf package_0_030616095338.tar
x ., 0 bytes, 0 tape blocks
x ./1843, 0 bytes, 0 tape blocks
x ./1843/primary, 0 bytes, 0 tape blocks
x ./1843/primary/acisf01843N001_src2.fits.gz, 9665 bytes, 19 tape blocks
x ./1843/primary/acisf01843N001_evt2.fits.gz, 16289515 bytes, 31816 tape blocks
.
. (output omitted)
.
x ./1843/vv.1843.001.1.gz, 1985 bytes, 4 tape blocks
x ./1843/oif.fits, 25920 bytes, 51 tape blocks
x ./tar_030616095338.rpt, 66 bytes, 1 tape blocks

unix% ls
1843/                               tar_030616095338.rpt
package_0_030616095338.tar

unix% rm package_0_030616095338.tar
```

If you downloaded data from multiple ObsIds, a directory will be created for each of them.

The final step is to uncompress the files:

```
unix% cd 1843
unix% gunzip ./primary/*.gz
unix% gunzip ./secondary/*.gz

unix% ls *
oif.fits                  vv.1843.001.1.gz

primary:
acisf01843N001_1_sum2.html      acisf01843N001_full_img2.jpg.log
acisf01843N001_1_sum2.html.log   acisf01843N001_src2.fits
acisf01843N001_2_sum2.html      acisf01843N001_src_img2.jpg
acisf01843N001_2_sum2.html.log   acisf01843N001_src_img2.jpg.log
acisf01843N001_3_sum2.html      acisf01843_000N001_bpix1.fits
acisf01843N001_3_sum2.html.log   orbitf082728300N001_ephl.fits
acisf01843N001_cntr_img2.fits   orbitf082987500N001_ephl.fits
acisf01843N001_cntr_img2.jpg    orbitf083333100N001_ephl.fits
acisf01843N001_cntr_img2.jpg.log orbitf083592300N001_ephl.fits
acisf01843N001_evt2.fits        orbitf083937900N001_ephl.fits
acisf01843N001_full_img2.fits   orbitf084197100N001_ephl.fits
acisf01843N001_full_img2.jpg    pcadf084271087N001_asoll.fits

secondary:
acisf01843_000N001_aoff1.fits   acisf01843_000N001_soff1.fits
acisf01843_000N001_evt1.fits    acisf01843_000N001_stat1.fits
acisf01843_000N001_flt1.fits   aspect/
acisf01843_000N001_msk1.fits    ephem/
```

acisf01843_000N001_mt11.fits

supporting:

Summary

For a description of the files that you just downloaded, read the [Introduction to the Data Products thread](#).

History

03 Jan 2005 reviewed for CIAO 3.2: no changes

01 Dec 2005 reviewed for CIAO 3.3: no changes

01 Dec 2006 reviewed for CIAO 3.4: no changes

URL: <http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao/threads/archivedownload/>

Last modified: 1 Dec 2006

Image 1: The ChaSeR GUI

Chandra Observation Search

Search Options

Instrument: HRC-I HRC-S ACIS-I ACIS-S Grating: HETG LETG NONE

File Input

Target Name: PI Name:

Proposal Number: Sequence Number:

Obsid: Exposure (ks):

Time Range (yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss) Start: Stop:

Status: **All** Type: **All** Category: **All**

Search By Position:

Input:	Output:
Coordinate System: Equatorial J2000	Coordinate System: Equatorial J2000
Equinox: J2000	Equinox: J2000
<input checked="" type="radio"/> hh mm ss.s/+/-dd mm ss	<input checked="" type="radio"/> hh mm ss.s/+/-dd mm ss
<input type="radio"/> decimal degrees	<input type="radio"/> decimal degrees

RA: DEC: Radius (arcmin):

Display Options

Table **File:** **Summary** Order by: **RA**

Submit **Clear** **Use SIMBAD** **Help** **Exit**

Image 2: The completed search form

Chandra Observation Search

Search Options

Instrument: HRC-I HRC-S ACIS-I ACIS-S Grating: HETG LETG N/A

File Input

Target Name: PI Name:

Proposal Number: Sequence Number:

Obsid: Exposure (ks):

Time Range (yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss) Start: Stop:

Status: Type: Category:

Search By Position:

Input:

Coordinate System: Output: Coordinate System:

Equinox: Equinox:

hh mm ss.s +/- dd mm ss hh mm ss.s +/- dd mm ss
 decimal degrees decimal degrees

RA: DEC: Radius (arcmin):

Display Options

Table File: Order by:

Image 3: The Search Results window

Chandra Search Results

SEQ_NUM	OBSID	INSTR	GRAT	APP_E...	EXP TI...	TARGET_NAME	PI_NAME	RA	DEC
590173	1720	ACIS-I	NONE		87.64	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590174	1721	ACIS-I	NONE		87.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590175	1722	ACIS-I	NONE		87.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590176	1723	ACIS-I	NONE		87.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590177	1724	ACIS-I	NONE		87.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590178	1725	ACIS-I	NONE		87.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590179	1726	ACIS-I	NONE		87.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590198	1772	ACIS-I	NONE		87.51	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590199	1773	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590200	1774	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590201	1775	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590202	1776	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590203	1777	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590204	1778	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590205	1779	ACIS-I	NONE		87.32	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590221	1841	ACIS-I	NONE		88.10	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590222	1842	ACIS-I	NONE		87.50	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590223	1843	ACIS-I	NONE		87.96	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590254	2865	ACIS-I	NONE		1010.11	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590261	2872	ACIS-I	NONE		109.97	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3
590272	3473	ACIS-I	NONE		109.67	G21.5-0.9 [Chip...]	CALIBRATION	18 33 33.50	-10 3

◀ ▶

Select Products

<input type="button" value="Primary"/>	All products selected	<input type="button" value="Add to retrieval list"/>
<input type="button" value="Secondary"/>	All products selected	<input type="button" value="View retrieval list"/>
<input type="button" value="Supporting"/>	No products selected	

Total rows = 31

Image 4: Details of the observation

Use the "Save" button to write this information to a text file.

Observation Detail

Seq #	590223	Status	archived	Obs_ID	1843	Prop #					
Target_Name G21.5-0.9 [Chip S3, T=120, Offsets=-1,20,-4]											
Instrument	ACIS-I	Grating	NONE	Type	CAL	Start Date					
Multiple Observatories											
P.I.	CALIBRATION		Observer	CALIBRATION							
Category SN, SNR AND ISOLATED NS											
App_Exp_Time	8.0	Sched/Obs_Time	7.96								
RA	18 33 33.50	Dec	-10 34 06.70	Equinox	J2000	Coord System	Equatorial				
Offset: Y	-1.0	Z	20.0	X-SIM-position		Z-SIM-position	1				
Raster_Scan	N	SS_Object	NONE	Nudge	N						
Photometry y/n	N	Vmag		Count_Rate	3.1	1st_Ord_Rate					
Dither y/n	<input type="checkbox"/>										
Roll y/n	N	angle		tolerance		Roll 180	N	uninterr			
Window y/n	N	Start Y		M		D		H		M	
		Stop Y		M		D		H		M	
Monitor	N	Number		Min int		Max int					
Phase y/n	N	epoch		period		Min		M			
						Max		M			
<input type="button" value="Next"/> <input type="button" value="Previous"/> <input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Close"/>											

Image 4: Details of the observation

Image 5: The second of three preview images

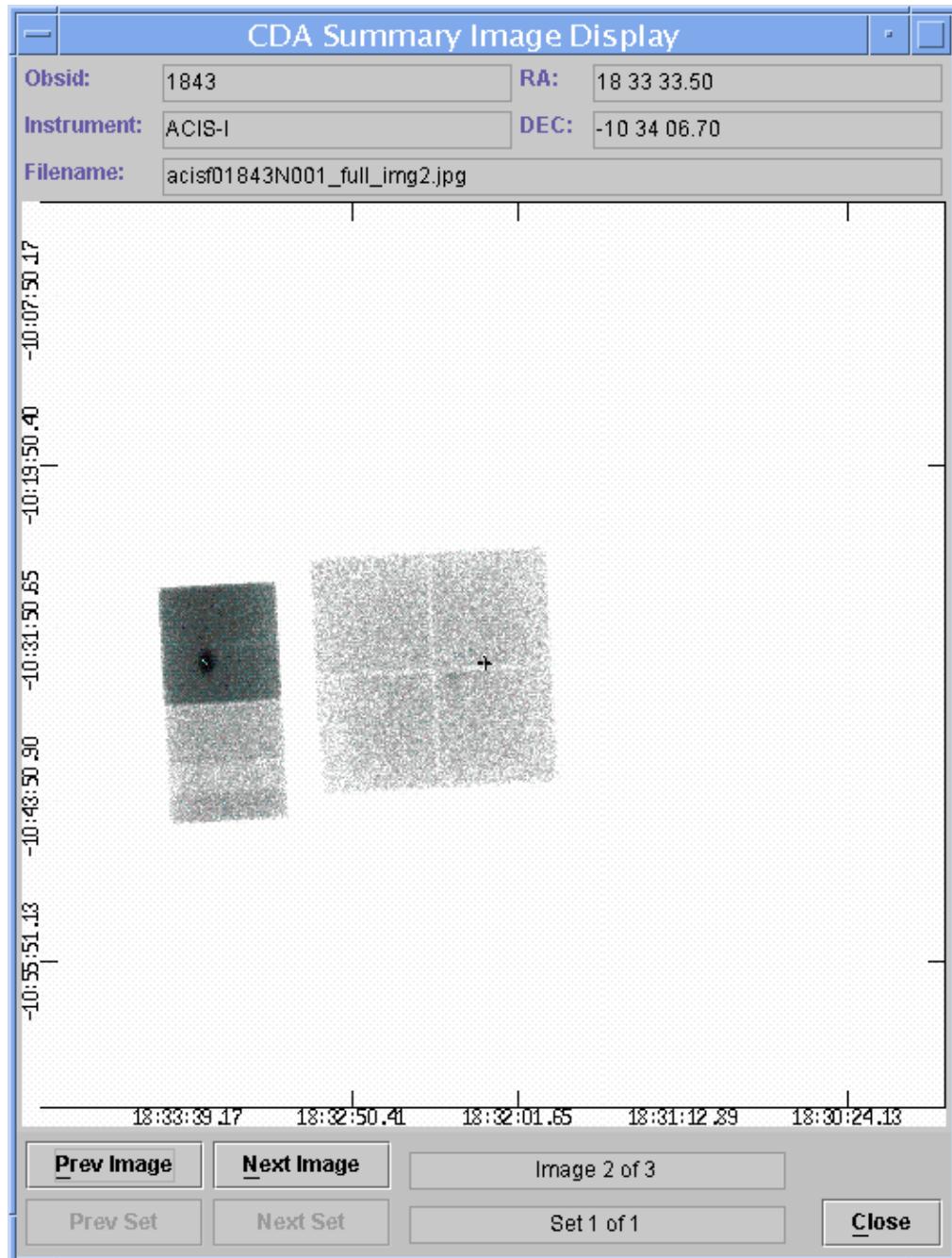


Image 6: The Retrieval List

Since *all* the primary and secondary products were selected for retrieval, only the categories are listed. If specific files are chosen, they are listed individually.

Chandra Retrieve List				
SEQ_NUM	OBSID	LEVEL	DETECTOR	DATA PRODUCT
590223	1843			p
590223	1843			s
Delete selected	Delete all	Specify new login and password	Return to search results	
Browse data	Retrieve data			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Stage in anonymous ftp area		<input type="radio"/> Download via application	Place files in <input type="text" value="/home/egalle"/>	

Image 7: Browse Results window

The total file size of the package (115 MB in this example) is listed at the top of the screen. Use this information to make sure there is sufficient disk space to download and unpack the data.

Browse Results

List of files associated with package list (total: 114758221 bytes)

FILENAME	FILESIZE	TIMESTAMP	BECOMES PUBLIC ON
acisf01843N001_src2.fits	40320	2000-09-04 05:09:46	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_evt2.fits	28635840	2000-09-04 05:09:46	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_1_sum2.html	1443	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_2_sum2.html	3956	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_3_sum2.html	2877	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_cntr_img2.fits	4268160	2000-09-04 05:09:46	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_full_img2.fits	4268160	2000-09-04 05:09:46	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_src_img2.jpg	129960	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_1_sum2.html.log	218	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_2_sum2.html.log	218	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_3_sum2.html.log	218	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_cntr_img2.jpg	767795	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_full_img2.jpg	128322	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_src_img2.jpg.log	218	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_cntr_img2.jpg.log	218	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
acisf01843N001_full_img2.jpg.log	218	2000-09-04 05:20:43	2000-09-12 00:00:00
pcadf084271087N001_asol1.fits	4550400	2000-09-04 03:36:44	
acisf01843_000N001_bpix1.fits	109440	2000-09-04 03:54:53	
orbitf082728300N001_eph1.fits	336960	2000-09-13 21:07:53	
orbitf082987500N001_eph1.fits	336960	2000-09-19 18:26:51	

Close

Image 8: Completed download screen

The location of the logfile (chaser.log) and the ftp directory in which the tarfile was placed are both given at the bottom of the screen.

Chandra Retrieve List

SEQ_NUM	OBSID	LEVEL	DETECTOR	DATA PRODUCT	PROD
590223	1843				primary
590223	1843				second

[Delete selected](#) [Delete all](#) [Login](#) [Return to search results](#) [Help](#) [Exit](#)

[Browse selected products](#) [Retrieve selected products](#) [Cancel Browse/Retrieve](#)

Stage in anonymous ftp area Download via application Place files in /home/egalle

File(s) package_0_030616095338.tar.* will be available at cda.harvard.edu:/pub/srftp/UoL7nEUa

Logged in file /home/egalle/chaser.log

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