
Starlink cheat sheet: Overview

Most useful packages for JCMT: **KAPPA** (various analysis tools), **SMURF** (gridding/DR), **CUPID** (source/clump finding), **CONVERT** (convert files), **GAIA** (GUI based visualisation and analysis, including data cubes), **TOPCAT** (catalogue GUI), **SPLAT** (spectra GUI), **stilts** (catalogue commandline). **ORAC-DR**: Data reduction pipelines. **PICARD**: data analysis pipelines.

Starlink data files: .sdf

NDF data format (SUN/33: Overview of an NDF)

- N-Dimensional Hierarchical Data Format: extension `.sdf`
- Go to/from FITS with **CONVERT**'s `ndf2fits/fits2ndf`
- Stores coordinate information differently from FITS.
- Each `.sdf` file can contain multiple NDF structures.
- Can have multiple **coordinate frames** defined.

Examining NDF files

- `hdstrace` list contents of a file (data and metadata).
- `ndftrace` shows the coordinate information.
- `fitslist` shows the FITS header (not coordinate info).
- `stats` Calculate statistics on a file/subset.
- use **GAIA** to view any components/extension arrays.

Useful features of JCMT NDFs

- **History tracking:** View with **KAPPA**'s `hislist`.
- **Variance & Error Components:** in gridded data, access/view with `comp=var` or `comp=err`.
- **Exposure time map:** in gridded data, access as `mysdf.more.SMURF.exp_time`.
- **Quality Arrays** can indicate extra information about map, e.g. `makemap` masks.
- **Provenance Tracking:** view with `provshow`.
- Missing/invalid data is indicated by **bad** pixel values (like NaN) and handled sensibly by all commands.

Tips for running Starlink commands

- Starlink commands take **positional and/or keyword parameters**.
- **Commands will prompt user** for any missing *required* parameter values.
- **Type ?** at prompt to see more information on that parameter.
- **Optional parameters** will use a default value if not given to the command.
- Often, optional parameters will use values from your **last run as the default**.
- Global defaults, last used & output values stored in **ADAM directory: (~/.adam/)**
- Files in the **ADAM directory** can become corrupted; delete if needed.
- Turn off run-time defaults by **passing RESET** to the command.
- **Include PROMPT** on command line to force prompting of every parameter.
- **Give ACCEPT** to accept defaults of all unlisted parameters without prompting.
- Control amount of output to screen with: `msg_filter=verbose` or `quiet`
- To give a NULL value to a parameter **type: !**
- To exit cleanly from interactive prompts **type: !!**
- When specifying parameters on the shell, you may need to **escape with quotes/backslashes any shell special characters**; e.g. `* ' ' , ([`
- **Use a caret (^)** before a filename to tell Starlink software to read the contents of that file (e.g. to give list of input files).
- Specify **multiple NDFs:** `in="in1,in2"` or with wildcards: `in="*2010*"`.
- Get **output values** with: `parget <parameter> <commandname>`.

Environmental Variables

- `ADAM_USER`: Specify ADAM directory. (Don't have multiple invocations running with same `ADAM_USER`).
- `NOPROMPT=1`: don't prompt for input.

Scripting Advice

- **Shell scripts:** **C-shell cookbook (SC/4)**.
- **Python:** starlink-wrapper package.
- **Perl:** module `Starlink::AMS::Task`.

Getting help

- JCMT Heterodyne cookbook: **SC/20**
- JCMT SCUBA-2 cookbook: **SC/21**
- interactive commandline help for packages: `type kaphelp, smurfhelp` etc.
- `findme/showme` to show html docs.
- HTML and PDF Starlink User Notes (SUNs) available for each package.

Accessing subregions of a map or cube

NDF Sections (SUN/95)

- Pass rectangular/cuboid subsections to commands.
- Use integers to index by NDF pixel coordinates:
`map.sdf\ (-5:5, 10:25\)` (rectangle of 11x16 pixels)
- Use floats to index by current astronomy coordinate frame:
`map(1h34m10.1s:1h34m12.4s, -2d35m:-2d30m)`
- Can also use centres and extents:
`map.sdf\ (5~25, -5~25\)` (square of 25x25 pixels)
- Note: you must escape brackets if running in the shell.

ARD regions (SUN/183)

- Used to extract more complex shapes from cubes/maps.
- Supports rectangles, circles, ellipses, polygons & more.
- Textfile with shapes and positions, in pixel or WCS coords.
- Generate interactively in **GAIA** or **KAPPA**'s `ardgen`
- Subset of ARD can be used in **GAIA**'s imaging toolbox.
- Mask a region of an image using **KAPPA**'s `ardmask` command

Starlink also supports **AST regions** (see **KAPPA**'s `regionmask`) and IVOA's STC-S regions (plottable within **GAIA**).

Coordinate systems

- NDF data arrays always have **pixel coordinate system** defined – often with centre of map on 0,0 (**pixel origin**).
- See NDF pixel coordinates interactively in **GAIA** by selecting **Image Analysis->Change Coordinates->Show-all coordinates**
- Multiple coordinate frames can be defined; switch between them with `wcsframe` or alter current with `wcsattrib`.
- To regrid, use `regrid` or to align with an existing map use `wcsalign`.

Starlink cheat sheet: Example commands with usage

BASH: initialise Starlink via:

```
export STARLINK_DIR=/path/to/starlink
source $STARLINK_DIR/etc/profile
```

Packages: Initialise packages by typing their name.

TCSH: initialise Starlink via:

```
setenv STARLINK_DIR /path/to/starlink
source $STARLINK_DIR/etc/cshrc
source $STARLINK_DIR/etc/login
```

Useful features of the Starlink/Starjava GUIs.

GAIA can open and view 2-D maps and 3-D cubes, extract spectra, rebin/average/collapse cubes, make movies, volume and iso-surface render cubes, perform astrometry, perform source finding, plot catalogs, crop images, get statistics, create histograms, perform photometry, search and display VO images and catalogs and much more...

TOPCAT is a GUI useful for catalog reading/writing, matching of multiple catalogs, analysis and visualisation. You can also use it to carry out TAP queries, e.g. to query the CADC JCMT Science archive.

SPLAT(Spectral Analysis Tool) can compare multiple spectra, identify lines, fit and manipulate spectra and produce plots.

CONVERT: see SUN/55 for all commands

Convert on the fly Launch `convert` to use input/output files in other formats like FITS, through auto conversion.
Export/import from NDF supports: FITS, ASCII, IRAF, TIFF, GIF. Commands named like: `ndf2fits` & `fits2ndf`.

KAPPA: see SUN/95 for all commands

Display maps/2D NDF sections `display myndf.sdf\ (0:50,100:200,0\) mode=faint device=xw`

Display spectra/1D NDF section `linplot myspectra.sdf device=xw` See SUN/95 §11 for more complex images.

Calculate statistics `stats in=mycube.sdf order=True percentiles=\ [0.99,0.95,0.9\]`

Create SNR map `makesnr in=mymap.sdf out=mymap_snr.sdf minvar=0.0`

Clip map at 3σ based on variance array `errclip in=file.sdf out=file_clipped.sdf mode=SNR limit=3`

Integrate a cube `collapse in=cube out=integ axis=vrad low=-5.0 high=10.0 estimator=integ`

Calculate 2nd moment of cube `collapse in=cube axis=3 low=-100.0 high=50.0 estimator=Iwd`

Get 1-D profile through map `profile in=map out=prof start=' "15:32 23:40:08"' end=' "15:31 23:48:08"'`

Extract a spectrum `pluck omc1 pos="5:35,-5:22" axes=3 method=sincgauss params=\ [3,5\] out=spec`

Clip data above/below thresholds `thresh in=map out=map_thr thrlo=-0.1 thrhi=500.0 newlo=bad newhi=bad`

Mosaic/Coadd multiple observations `wcsmosaic in='m51*' out=mos variance=true method=nearest wlim=0.0`

Align maps/cubes onto same WCS grid `wcsalign in=cube1 out=cube1_al ref=cube2 method=nearest`

Regrid cube's velocity axis to different resolution `sqorst cube out=resol pixscale=1.0 axis=3 mode=pixelscale`

Smooth a map/cube with a Gaussian `gausmooth in=file out=file_smooth fwhm=\ (5.3,7.8\) orient=30.0`

Fit a beam to a map and report `beamfit in=mars.sdf mode=interface beams=1 pos=' "0,0"'`

Copy NDF/section based on template `ndfcopy mymap out=res like=refmap.sdf likewcs=True trimbad=True`

Remove wavelength axis from a SCUBA-2 map `ndfcopy in=3dmap trim=yes out=2dmap`

Copy bad pixel mask from reference `copybad mymap.sdf ref=mymask.sdf out=masked.sdf`

Grow a map into a cube by repeating the data `manic in=map out=cube axes=\ [1,2,0\] ubound=25 lbound=-25`

Various NDF/scalar maths commands `maths, add, sub, div, mult, convolve, cdiv, cadd, csub, cmult`

Change from vel. to freq `wcsattrib mycube mode=set name=system newval=freq`

Change from frequency to vrad coords `wcsattrib mycube mode=set name=system newval=vrad`

Change to Galactic coordinates (not regridding) `wcsattrib myfile.sdf mode=set name=system newval=galactic`

Replace all NaN/Bad values with 0.0 `nomagic in=myfile out=myfile_nobad repval=0.0`

Change data values values in a section `chpix in=myfile out=myfile_changed section=' "3:5,4"' newval=50.0`

SMURF: see SUN/258 for all commands

Grid raw SCUBA-2 data `makemap in=^raw.lis out=map config=^dimconfig.lis pixsize=4.0 trim=true`

Grid raw ACSIS data `makecube in=^raw.lis out=cube autogrid=True spread=Gauss params=' "0,2.5"'`

Fit spectra `fitld in=cube out=fitprofiles config=^fitldconfig.lis`

CUPID: see SUN/255 for all commands

Clumpfinding `findclumps mymap out=clumps method=fellwalker outcat=clump.FIT config=^fellconf.lis`

Get data within clump boundaries `extractclumps mask=clumps data=other out=extract outcat=cat.FIT`

Find the large scale structure `findback in=myndf out=background box=\ [5,5,1\] rms=!`

Pipelines: ORAC-DR & PICARD

Initialise & run ORAC-DR pipeline `oracdr_<instrumentname> -cwd`

```
oracdr -log sf -loop file -files=files.lis -recpars=^myrecpars RECIPE_NAME
```

Run Picard `picard -log sf -recpars=^myrecpars RECIPE_NAME `cat files.lis``