

Octave CFITSIO Toolkit 0.0.8

FITS file functionality for GNU Octave.

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To download a copy of the GNU Octave CFITSIO package, please visit <https://gnu-octave.github.io/octave-cfitsio/index>.

Table of Contents

1	Installing and loading	1
1.1	Windows install	1
1.2	Online Direct install	1
1.3	Off-line install	1
1.4	Loading	1
2	Basic Usage Overview	2
2.1	Overview	2
2.2	Using the toolkit	2
2.2.1	Reading Data	2
2.2.2	Reading Information	2
2.2.3	Low level functionality	2
3	Function Reference	4
3.1	High Level File Functions	4
3.1.1	fitsdisp	4
3.1.2	fitsinfo	4
3.1.3	fitsread	5
3.1.4	fitswrite	5
3.2	Low Level Functions	6
3.2.1	File Functions	6
3.2.1.1	matlab.io.fits.closeFile	6
3.2.1.2	matlab.io.fits.createFile	6
3.2.1.3	matlab.io.fits.deleteFile	7
3.2.1.4	matlab.io.fits.fileMode	7
3.2.1.5	matlab.io.fits.fileName	7
3.2.1.6	matlab.io.fits.openDiskFile	8
3.2.1.7	matlab.io.fits.openFile	8
3.2.2	HDU Functions	8
3.2.2.1	matlab.io.fits.copyHDU	9
3.2.2.2	matlab.io.fits.deleteHDU	9
3.2.2.3	matlab.io.fits.getHDUnum	9
3.2.2.4	matlab.io.fits.getHDUoff	10
3.2.2.5	matlab.io.fits.getHDUtype	10
3.2.2.6	matlab.io.fits.getNumHDUs	10
3.2.2.7	matlab.io.fits.movAbsHDU	10
3.2.2.8	matlab.io.fits.movNamHDU	11
3.2.2.9	matlab.io.fits.movRelHDU	11
3.2.2.10	matlab.io.fits.writeChecksum	11
3.2.3	Keyword Functions	11
3.2.3.1	matlab.io.fits.deleteKey	12
3.2.3.2	matlab.io.fits.deleteRecord	12
3.2.3.3	matlab.io.fits.getHdrSpace	12
3.2.3.4	matlab.io.fits.readCard	12
3.2.3.5	matlab.io.fits.readKey	13
3.2.3.6	matlab.io.fits.readKeyCmplx	13
3.2.3.7	matlab.io.fits.readKeyDbl	13

3.2.3.8	matlab.io.fits.readKeyLongLong	13
3.2.3.9	matlab.io.fits.readKeyLongStr	14
3.2.3.10	matlab.io.fits.readKeyUnit	14
3.2.3.11	matlab.io.fits.readRecord	14
3.2.3.12	matlab.io.fits.writeComment	14
3.2.3.13	matlab.io.fits.writeDate	15
3.2.3.14	matlab.io.fits.writeHistory	15
3.2.3.15	matlab.io.fits.writeKey	15
3.2.3.16	matlab.io.fits.writeKeyUnit	16
3.2.4	Image Manipulation	16
3.2.4.1	matlab.io.fits.createImg	16
3.2.4.2	matlab.io.fits.getImgSize	16
3.2.4.3	matlab.io.fits.getImgType	16
3.2.4.4	matlab.io.fits.insertImg	17
3.2.4.5	matlab.io.fits.readImg	17
3.2.4.6	matlab.io.fits.setBscale	17
3.2.4.7	matlab.io.fits.setTscale	18
3.2.4.8	matlab.io.fits.writeImg	18
3.2.5	Utility Functions	19
3.2.5.1	matlab.io.fits.getConstantNames	19
3.2.5.2	matlab.io.fits.getConstantValue	19
3.2.5.3	matlab.io.fits.getOpenFiles	19
3.2.5.4	matlab.io.fits.getVersion	19
3.2.6	Compression Functions	20
3.2.6.1	matlab.io.fits.imgCompress	20
3.2.6.2	matlab.io.fits.isCompressedImg	20
3.2.6.3	matlab.io.fits.setCompressionType	20
3.2.6.4	matlab.io.fits.setHCompScale	20
3.2.6.5	matlab.io.fits.setHCompSmooth	21
3.2.6.6	matlab.io.fits.setTileDim	21
3.2.7	Binary and ASCII Tables	21
3.2.7.1	matlab.io.fits.createTbl	21
3.2.7.2	matlab.io.fits.deleteCol	22
3.2.7.3	matlab.io.fits.deleteRows	22
3.2.7.4	matlab.io.fits.getAColParms	22
3.2.7.5	matlab.io.fits.getBColParms	23
3.2.7.6	matlab.io.fits.getColName	23
3.2.7.7	matlab.io.fits.getColType	24
3.2.7.8	matlab.io.fits.getEqColType	24
3.2.7.9	matlab.io.fits.getNumCols	24
3.2.7.10	matlab.io.fits.getNumRows	24
3.2.7.11	matlab.io.fits.getRowSize	25
3.2.7.12	matlab.io.fits.insertATbl	25
3.2.7.13	matlab.io.fits.insertBTbl	25
3.2.7.14	matlab.io.fits.insertCol	26
3.2.7.15	matlab.io.fits.insertRows	26
3.2.7.16	matlab.io.fits.readATblHdr	26
3.2.7.17	matlab.io.fits.readBTblHdr	26
3.2.7.18	matlab.io.fits.readCol	27
3.2.7.19	matlab.io.fits.writeCol	27
3.2.8	Import functions	28
3.2.8.1	import_fits	28

Appendix A	GNU General Public License	29
Index		39

1 Installing and loading

The GNU Octave CFITSIO toolkit must be installed and then loaded to be used.

It can be installed in GNU Octave directly from octave-cfitsio, or can be installed in an off-line mode via a downloaded tarball.

The toolkit has a dependency on the cfitsio library (<https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/fitsio/>), so it must be installed in order to successfully install the GNU Octave toolkit.

For Fedora: `yum install cfitsio-devel`

The toolkit must be then be loaded once per each GNU Octave session in order to use its functionality.

1.1 Windows install

If running in Windows, the package may already be installed, to check run:

```
pkg list cfitsio
```

Otherwise it can be installed by installing the requirements and then using the online or offline install method.

1.2 Online Direct install

With an internet connection available, the package can be installed from octave-cfitsio using the following command within GNU Octave:

```
pkg install "https://github.com/gnu-octave/octave-/cfitsioreleases/download/v0.0.8/octave-cfitsio-0.0.8.tar.gz"
```

On GNU Octave 7 and higher, the package can be installed in the simpler form of:

```
pkg install -forge cfitsio
```

The latest released version of the toolkit will be downloaded and installed.

1.3 Off-line install

With the toolkit package already downloaded, and in the current directory when running GNU Octave, the package can be installed using the following command within GNU Octave:

```
pkg install octave-cfitsio-0.0.8.tar.gz
```

1.4 Loading

Regardless of the method of installing the toolkit, in order to use its functions the toolkit must be loaded using the pkg load command:

```
pkg load cfitsio
```

The toolkit must be loaded on each GNU Octave session.

2 Basic Usage Overview

2.1 Overview

The octave-cfitsio toolkit provides high and low level functionality for reading and writing FITS format files.

The high level functions provide base read and write of data to octave using the functions `fits_disp`, `fitsinfo`, `fitsread` and `fitswrite`. The low level functions provide direct access to the cfitsio API and are provided under the `matlab.io.fits` namespace. The low level functions provide access to the low level API of the CFITSIO C library (<https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/fitsio/>).

Since GNU Octave does not support the `matlab import` command, an `import_fits` function is provided.

Running the statement:

```
import_fits
```

Is the equivalent of running in matlab:

```
import matlab.io.fits;
```

2.2 Using the toolkit

The package must be loaded each time a GNU Octave session is started:

```
pkg load cfitsio
```

After loading the toolkit, the toolkit functions are available.

2.2.1 Reading Data

To read the primary image data of a fits file, use the `fitsread` function:

```
imagedata = fitsread("thefitsfile.fits");
```

2.2.2 Reading Information

To read information about the content in a fits file, use the `fitsinfo` functions.

```
info = fitsinfo("thefitsfile.fits");
```

2.2.3 Low level functionality

Where functionality is required that is not met by the high level functions, most of the cfitsio functions are available in the `matlab.io.fits` namespace.

Knowledge of the **CFITSIO c library** is beneficial in using the low level functions.

Low level functions can be accessed using thier full package name name:

```
fd = matlab.io.fits.openFile('tst0012.fits');
```

Using `import_fits`, functions can be used using the fits name:

```
import_fits;
fd = fits.openFile('tst0012.fits');
```

The following example will open a FITS file and display each HDU Type:

```
# import the fits functions so don't have to use the full namespace each time
import_fits;

# open the file
fd = fits.openFile('tst0012.fits');
```

```
# get number of hdus in the file
n = fits.getNumHDUs (fd);

# for each hdu, go to it, print out the type
for j = 1:n
    hdutype = fits.movAbsHDU (fd, j);
    printf ('HDU %d:  "%s"\n', j, hdutype);
endfor

# close the file
fits.closeFile (fd);
```

3 Function Reference

The functions currently available in the toolkit are described below:

3.1 High Level File Functions

3.1.1 fitsdisp

```
info = fitsdisp(filename)
info = fitsdisp(filename, propertyname, propertyvalue)
```

Display metadata about fits format file

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

propertyname, *propertyvalue* - property name/value pairs

Known property names are:

'Index' Value is a scalar or vector of hdu numbers to display

'Mode' display mode of 'standard' (default), 'min' or 'full'

'standard' display mode shows the standard keywords for the selected HDUs.

'min' display mode shows only the type and size of the selected HDUs.

'full' display shows all keywords for the selected HDU.

Outputs

info - the metadata of the file. If no output variable is provided, it displays to the screen.

Examples

```
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");

fitsdisp(filename);
```

3.1.2 fitsinfo

```
info = fitsinfo(filename)
```

Read information about fits format file

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

Outputs

info - a struct containing the structure and information about the fits file.

Examples

```
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");

info = fitsinfo(filename);
```

3.1.3 fitsread

```
data = fitsread(filename)
data = fitsread(filename, 'raw')
data = fitsread(filename, extname)
data = fitsread(filename, extname, index)
data = fitsread(filename, ----, propertyname, propertyvalue)
```

Read the primary data, or specified extension data. It scales the data and applied Nan to any undefined values.

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

exttype - can be 'primary', 'asciitable', 'binarytable', 'image', 'unknown'.

index - can be used to specify which table when more than one of a given type exists.

'raw'- If the 'raw' keyword is used, the raw data from the file will be used without replacing undefined values with Nan

Known property names are:

Info input info from fitsinfo call.

PixelRegion

pixel region to extract data for in an image. It expects a cell array of same size as the number of axis in the image. Each cell should be in vector format of: start, [start stop] or [start, increment, stop].

TableColumns

A list of columns to extract from a ascii or binary table.

TableRows

A list of rows to extract from an ascii or binary table.

Outputs

data - The read data from the table or image.

Examples

```
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");

# read the primary image data
imagedata = fitsread(filename);

# read the 1st non primary image
imagedata = fitsread(filename, "image");

# read the first binary table, selected columns
tbldata = fitsread(filename, "binarytable", "TableColumns", [1 2 11]);

# read the first ascii table
atbldata = fitsread(filename, "asciitable");
```

3.1.4 fitswrite

```
fitswrite(data, filename)
fitswrite(data, filename, propertyname, propertyvalue)
```

Write image data *data* to FITS file *filename*. If the file already exists, overwrite it.

Inputs

data - imagedata to write to a file.

filename - filename to write to.

propertyname, *propertyvalue* - property name/value pairs

Additional properties can be set as *propertyname*, *propertyvalue* pairs. Known property names are:

WriteMode

Set mode for writing to image as 'overwrite' (default) or 'append' to append images.

Compression

Set compression type to use for image as 'none' (default), 'gzip', 'rice', 'hcompress' or 'plio'.

Outputs

None

Examples

```
filename = tempname();
X = double([1:3;4:6]);
fitswrite(X, filename);
```

3.2 Low Level Functions

3.2.1 File Functions

3.2.1.1 matlab.io.fits.closeFile

`closeFile(file)`

Close the opened fits file

This is the equivalent of the fits_close_file function.

Inputs

file - opened file returned from openFile or createFile.

Outputs

None

Examples

```
import_fits;
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits")

fd = fits.openFile(filename);
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

See also: matlab.io.fits.createFile, matlab.io.fits.openFile.

3.2.1.2 matlab.io.fits.createFile

`file = createFile(filename)`

Attempt to create a file of the given input name.

If the filename starts with ! and the file exists, it will create a new file, otherwise, if the file exists, the create will fail.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_create_file` function.

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

Outputs

file - opened file identifier.

Examples

```
import_fits;

fd = fits.createFile("myfitsfile.fits");
fits.createImg(fd, 'uint16', [100 100]);
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

See also: `matlab.io.fits.openFile`.

3.2.1.3 `matlab.io.fits.deleteFile`

`deleteFile(file)`

Force a close and delete of a fits file.

This is the equivalent of the `fits_delete_file` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

None

3.2.1.4 `matlab.io.fits.fileMode`

`mode = fileMode(file)`

Return the file mode of the opened fits file.

This is the equivalent of the `fits_file_mode` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

mode - The mode will return as a string 'READWRITE' or 'READONLY'

3.2.1.5 `matlab.io.fits.fileName`

`filename = fileName(file)`

Return the file name of the opened fits file.

This is the equivalent of the `fits_file_name` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

filename - name of the fits file.

3.2.1.6 matlab.io.fits.openDiskFile

```
file = openDiskFile(filename)
```

```
file = openDiskFile(filename, mode)
```

Attempt to open a file of the given input name, ignoring any special processing of the filename.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_open_diskfile function.

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

mode - If the option mode string 'READONLY' (default) or 'READWRITE' is provided, open the file using that mode.

Outputs

file - opened file identifier.

Examples

```
import_fits;
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits")

fd = fits.openDiskFile(filename, 'READONLY');
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

See also: openFile, createFile.

3.2.1.7 matlab.io.fits.openFile

```
file = openFile(filename)
```

```
file = openFile(filename, mode)
```

Attempt to open a file of the given input name.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_open_file function.

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

mode - If the option mode string 'READONLY' (default) or 'READWRITE' is provided, open the file using that mode.

Outputs

file - opened file identifier.

Examples

```
import_fits;
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits")

fd = fits.openFile(filename, 'READONLY');
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

See also: matlab.io.fits.openDiskFile, matlab.io.fits.createFile.

3.2.2 HDU Functions

3.2.2.1 matlab.io.fits.copyHDU

`copyHDU(infile, outfile)`

Copy current HDU from one infile to another.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_copy_hdu` function.

Inputs

filename - filename to open.

Outputs

infile - opened input file identifier.

outfile - opened output file identifier.

Examples

```
import_fits;

# open input and output files
infilename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");
infile = fits.openFile(infilename);

outfile = fits.createFile("myfitsfile.fits");
# copy first hdu
fits.copyHDU(infile, outfile);
# move to and then copy 2nd hdu
fits.movAbsHDU(infile,2);
fits.copyHDU(infile, outfile);

# close files
fits.closeFile(infile);
fits.closeFile(outfile);
```

3.2.2.2 matlab.io.fits.deleteHDU

`type = deleteHDU(file)`

Delete the current HDU and go to next HDU.

Returns the newly current HDU type as a string.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_delete_hdu` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

type - string value for type of the next HDU.

3.2.2.3 matlab.io.fits.getHDUnum

`num = getHDUnum(file)`

Return the index of the current HDU.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_hdu_num` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

num - current hdu number.

3.2.2.4 matlab.io.fits.getHDUoff

```
[headtstart, datastart, dataend] = getHDUoff(file)
```

Return offsets of the current HDU.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_hduoff function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

headtstart, datastart, dataend - offset information for the current HDU.

3.2.2.5 matlab.io.fits.getHDUtype

```
type = getHDUtype(file)
```

Return the current HDUs type as a string.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_hdu_type function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

type - current hdu type

3.2.2.6 matlab.io.fits.getNumHDUs

```
num = getNumHDUs(file)
```

Return the count of HDUs in the file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_num_hdus function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

num - return the number of HDUs in the file.

Examples

```
import_fits;
testname = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");
fd = fits.openFile(testname);
hducount = getNumHDUs(fd), 5);
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

3.2.2.7 matlab.io.fits.movAbsHDU

```
type = movAbsHDU(file, hdunum)
```

Go to absolute HDU index *hdunum*

Returns the newly current HDU type as a string.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_movabs_hdu function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

hdunum - HDU number to move to.

Outputs

type - hdu type of the now current HDU.

3.2.2.8 matlab.io.fits.movNamHDU

`hdutype = movNamHDU(file, hdutype, extname, extver)`

Go to HDU matching *hdutype*, *extname*, *extver*.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_movnam_hdu function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

hdutype - HDU number to move to. Valid hdutype values are 'IMAGE_HDU', 'ASCII_TBL', 'BINARY_TBL', 'ANY_HDU'.

extname, *extver* - EXTNAME and EXTVER keywords to match.

Outputs

hdutype - hdu type of the now current HDU.

3.2.2.9 matlab.io.fits.movRelHDU

`type = movRelHDU(file, hdunum)`

Go to relative HDU index *hdunum*.

Returns the newly current HDU type as a string.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_movrel_hdu function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

hdunum - relative HDU number to move to.

Outputs

type - hdu type of the now current HDU.

3.2.2.10 matlab.io.fits.writeChecksum

`writeChecksum(file)`

Recalculate the HDU checksum and if required, write the new value.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_write_chksum function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

None

3.2.3 Keyword Functions

3.2.3.1 matlab.io.fits.deleteKey

`deleteKey(file, key)`

Delete a key in the fits file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_delete_key` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

key - Key name to remove.

Outputs

None

3.2.3.2 matlab.io.fits.deleteRecord

`deleteRecord(file, keynum)`

Delete a key in the fits file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_delete_record` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

keynum - Record number to remove.

Outputs

None

3.2.3.3 matlab.io.fits.getHdrSpace

`[numkeys, freekeys] = getHdrSpace(file)`

Get the number of keyword records used and available.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_hdrspace` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

numkeys - number of existing keys.

freekeys - number of free key space.

3.2.3.4 matlab.io.fits.readCard

`card = readCard(file, recname)`

Read the keyword card for name *recname*

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_card` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

recname - record name to read

Outputs

card - unparsed record value string

3.2.3.5 matlab.io.fits.readKey

```
[keyvalue, keycomment] = readKey(file, recname)
```

Read the keyword value and comment for name *recname*.
This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_read_key_str function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.
recname - keyword name.

Outputs

keyvalue - string value of record.
keycomment - comment string

3.2.3.6 matlab.io.fits.readKeyCmplx

```
[value, comment] = readKeyCmplx(file, recname)
```

Read the key value *recname* as a complex double.
This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_read_key_dblcmp function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.
recname - keyword name.

Outputs

value - complex value of record.
comment - comment string

3.2.3.7 matlab.io.fits.readKeyDbl

```
[value, comment] = readKeyDbl(file, recname)
```

Read the key value *recname* as a double.
This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_read_key_dbl function.\n \

Inputs

file - opened fits file.
recname - keyword name.

Outputs

value - double value of record.
comment - comment string

3.2.3.8 matlab.io.fits.readKeyLongLong

```
[value, comment] = readKeyLongLong(file, recname)
```

Read the key value *recname* as a long long.
This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_read_key_lnglng function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.
recname - keyword name.

Outputs

value - int64 value of record.

comment - comment string

3.2.3.9 matlab.io.fits.readKeyLongStr

```
[value, comment] = readKeyLongStr(file, recname)
```

Read the key value *recname* as a string.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_key_longstr` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

recname - keyword name.

Outputs

value - string value of record.

comment - comment string

3.2.3.10 matlab.io.fits.readKeyUnit

```
keyunit = readKeyUnit(file, recname)
```

Read the physical key units value *recname*.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_key_unit` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

recname - keyword name.

Outputs

keyunit - units value of record.

3.2.3.11 matlab.io.fits.readRecord

```
rec = readRecord(file, recidx)
```

Read the keyword record at *recidx*.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_record` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

recidx - record number.

Outputs

rec - full keyword record

3.2.3.12 matlab.io.fits.writeComment

```
writeComment(file, comment)
```

Append a comment to to the fits file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_write_comment` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

comment - comment to append

Outputs

None

3.2.3.13 matlab.io.fits.writeDate

`writeDate(file)`

Write the date keyword.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_write_date function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

None

3.2.3.14 matlab.io.fits.writeHistory

`writeHistory(file, history)`

Append a history to to the fits file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_write_history function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

history - history string.

Outputs

None

3.2.3.15 matlab.io.fits.writeKey

`writeKey(file, key, value)`

`writeKey(file, key, value, comment)`

`writeKey(file, key, value, comment, decimals)`

Append or replace a key in the fits file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_write_key and fits_update_key function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

key - keyword name.

value - keyword value.

comment - keyword comment.

decimals - number of decimals.

Outputs

None

3.2.3.16 matlab.io.fits.writeKeyUnit

`writeKeyUnit(file, key, unit)`

Write a key unit to the fits file.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_write_key_unit` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

key - keyword name.

unit - keyword units as string.

Outputs

None

3.2.4 Image Manipulation

3.2.4.1 matlab.io.fits.createImg

`createImg(file, bitpix, naxis)`

create a new primary image or image extension.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_create_imgll` function.

Inputs

file - file previously opened with `openFile`, `openDiskFile` or `createFile`.

bitpix - type for the data as a string in either matlab or cfitsio naming.

naxis - axis values for the image.

Outputs

None

Examples

```
import_fits;
fd = fits.createFile("test.fits");
fits.createImg(fd,'int16',[10 20]);
fits.close(fd);
```

3.2.4.2 matlab.io.fits.getImgSize

`size = getImgSize(file)`

Return size of a Image HDU.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_img_size` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

size - vector containing the image dimensions.

3.2.4.3 matlab.io.fits.getImgType

`type = getImgType(file)`

Return datatype of a Image HDU

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_img_type` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

type - datatype as a string for the image type.

3.2.4.4 matlab.io.fits.insertImg

`insertImg(file, bitpix, naxis)`

Insert a new primary image or image extension at current HDU position.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_insert_imgll` function.

Inputs

file - file previously opened with `openFile`, `openDiskFile` or `createFile`.

bitpix - type for the data as a string in either matlab or cfitsio naming.

naxis - axis values for the image.

Outputs

None

3.2.4.5 matlab.io.fits.readImg

`data = readImg(file)`

`data = readImg(file, firstpix, lastpix)`

`data = readImg(file, firstpix, lastpix, inc)`

Read Image data.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_subset` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

firstpix - first pixel coordinate

lastpix - last pixel coordinate

inc - pixel increment

Outputs

data - image data read

Examples

```
import_fits;
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");
fd = fits.openFile(filename);
# read the image
imagedata = fits.readImg(fd);
# read a 70x80 part of the image
imagedata = fits.readImg(fd, [11 11],[80 90]);
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

3.2.4.6 matlab.io.fits.setBscale

`setBscale(file, bscale, bzero)`

Reset bscale and bzero to be used with reading and writing Images.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_set_bscale` function.

Inputs*file* - opened fits file.*bscale* - bscale value*bzero* - bzero value**Outputs**

None

3.2.4.7 matlab.io.fits.setTscale`setTscale(file, col, scale, zero)`

Reset scale and zero to be used with reading and writing table data.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_set_tscale` function.**Inputs***file* - opened fits file.*col* - column number*scale* - scale value*zero* - zero value**Outputs**

None

3.2.4.8 matlab.io.fits.writeImg`writeImg(file, imagedata)``writeImg(file, imagedata, fpixel)`

write imagedata to a FITS file. The rows and column size must match the size of NAXIS, NAXIS etc

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_write_subset` function.**Inputs***file* - opened fits file.*imagedata* - Image data.*fpixel* - start pixel to write from.**Outputs**

None

Examples

Create a fits file and write a 10x10 image in the primary and image ext:

```
import_fits;
fd = fits.createFile("myfitsfile.fits");
data = int16(zeros(10,10));
# primary
fits.createImg(fd,class(data), size(data));
fits.writeImg(fd,data);
# image ext
fits.createImg(fd,class(data), size(data));
```

```
fits.writeImg(fd,data);  
# close file  
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

3.2.5 Utility Functions

3.2.5.1 matlab.io.fits.getConstantNames

namelist = `getConstantNames()`

Return the names of all known fits constants.

Inputs

None

Outputs

namelist - cell array of all known fits constant names

See also: `getConstantValue`.

3.2.5.2 matlab.io.fits.getConstantValue

value = `getConstantValue(name)`

Return the value of a known fits constant.

Inputs

name - name of the constant to retrieve value of.

Outputs

value - value of the constant

See also: `getConstantNames`.

3.2.5.3 matlab.io.fits.getOpenFiles

files = `getOpenFiles()`

Get the file handles of all open fits files.

Inputs

None

Outputs

files list of opened fits file handles.

See also: `openFile`.

3.2.5.4 matlab.io.fits.getVersion

ver = `getVersion()`

Return the version number of the cfitsio library used.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_version` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

ver - version

3.2.6 Compression Functions

3.2.6.1 `matlab.io.fits.imgCompress`

`imgCompress(infile, outfile)`

Copy HDU and image data from one infile to another, using the outfile's compression type.

This is the equivalent of the `cfitsio fits_img_compress` function.

Inputs

infile - opened input fits file.

outfile - opened writable output fits file.

Outputs

None

3.2.6.2 `matlab.io.fits.isCompressedImg`

`comp = isCompressedImg(file)`

Return true if image is compressed.

This is the equivalent of the `cfitsio fits_is_compressed_image` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

comp - boolean for whether image is compressed or not.

3.2.6.3 `matlab.io.fits.setCompressionType`

`setCompressionType(file, comptype)`

Set compression type for writing FITS images.

This is the equivalent of the `cfitsio fits_set_compression_type` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

comptype - compression type. Valid *comptype* values are: 'GZIP', 'GZIP2', 'RICE', 'PLIO', 'HCOMPRESS' or 'NOCOMPRESS'.

Outputs

None

3.2.6.4 `matlab.io.fits.setHCompScale`

`setHCompScale(file, scale)`

Set scale to be used with HCOMPRESS compression.

This is the equivalent of the `cfitsio fits_set_hcomp_scale` function.

Inputs*file* - opened fits file.*scale* - scale value**Outputs**

None

3.2.6.5 matlab.io.fits.setHCompSmooth`setHCompSmooth(file, smooth)`

Set smooth value to be used with HCOMPRESS compression.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_set_hcomp_smooth` function.**Inputs***file* - opened fits file.*smooth* - smooth value**Outputs**

None

3.2.6.6 matlab.io.fits.setTileDim`setTileDim(file, tiledims)`

Set compression tile dims for writing FITS images.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_set_tile_dim` function.**Inputs***file* - opened fits file.*tiledims* - tile dimensions**Outputs**

None

3.2.7 Binary and ASCII Tables**3.2.7.1 matlab.io.fits.createTbl**`createTbl(file, tbltype, nrows, ttype, tform)``createTbl(file, tbltype, nrows, ttype, tform, tunit)``createTbl(file, tbltype, nrows, ttype, tform, tunit, extname)`

Create a new ASCII or bintable extension.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_create_tbl` function.**Inputs***file* - opened fits file.*tbltype* - table type 'binary' or 'ascii'.*nrows* - initial number of rows (normally 0)*ttype* - cell array of column type*tform* - cell array of column format

tunit - cell array of column units

extname - optional extension name

ttype, *tform*, *tunit* are expected to be the same size.

Outputs

None

Examples

```
import_fits;
fd = fits.createFile("test.fits");
ttype = {'Col1','Col2','Col3','Col4'};
tform = {'A9','A4','A3','A8'};
tunit = {'m','s','kg','km'};
fits.createTbl(fd,'binary',0,ttype,tform,tunit,'table-name');
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

3.2.7.2 matlab.io.fits.deleteCol

`deleteCol(file, colnum)`

Delete a column from a table.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_delete_col` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - Column to delete from current table.

Outputs

None

3.2.7.3 matlab.io.fits.deleteRows

`deleteRows(file, firstrow, numrows)`

Delete rows from a table.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_delete_rows` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

firstrow - Start row to delete.

numrows - Number of rows to delete.

Outputs

None

3.2.7.4 matlab.io.fits.getAColParms

```
[ttype,tbcol,tunit,tform,scale,zero,nulstr,tdisp] =
    getAColParms(file, colnum)
```

Get ASCII table parameters.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_acolparms` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - Column to retrieve.

Outputs

ttype, tbc, tunit, tform, scale, zero, nulstr, tdisp column information in same format as provided by `fits_get_acolparms`.

3.2.7.5 matlab.io.fits.getBColParms

```
[ttype, tunit, typechar, repeat, scale, zero, nulval, tdisp] =  
    getBColParms(file, colnum)
```

Get binary table parameters.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_bcolparms` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - Column to retrieve.

Outputs

ttype, tunit, typechar, repeat, scale, zero, nulval, tdisp column information in same format as provided by `fits_get_bcolparms`.

3.2.7.6 matlab.io.fits.getColName

```
[colnum, colname] = getColName(file, template)  
[colnum, colname] = getColName(file, template, casesens)
```

Get column name.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_get_colname` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

template - template string for matching column name.

casesens - boolean whether to be case sensitive in match.

Outputs

colnum - column number of match.

colname - column name of match.

Examples

```
import_fits;  
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");  
fd = fits.openFile(filename);  
fits.movAbsHDU(fd,2);  
[colnum, colname] = fits.getColName(fd,"C*");  
# returned 3, "COUNTS"  
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

3.2.7.7 matlab.io.fits.getColType

```
[dtype,repeat,width] = getColType(file, colnum)
```

Get column type.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_coltypell function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - Column to delete from current table.

Outputs

dtype,repeat,width - column information.

3.2.7.8 matlab.io.fits.getEqColType

```
[dtype,repeat,width] = getEqColType(file, colnum)
```

Get column type.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_eqcoltypell function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - Column number.

Outputs

dtype,repeat,width - column type

3.2.7.9 matlab.io.fits.getNumCols

```
ncols = getNumCols(file)
```

Get number of columns.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_num_cols function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

ncols - the number of columns in the table.

3.2.7.10 matlab.io.fits.getNumRows

```
nrows = getNumRows(file)
```

Get number of rows.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_numrowsll function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

nrows - the number of rows in in the current table.

3.2.7.11 matlab.io.fits.getRowSize

`nrows = getRowSize(file)`

Get optimum number of rows to read/write at one time.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_get_rowsize function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

nrows - number of rows.

3.2.7.12 matlab.io.fits.insertATbl

`insertATbl(file, rowlen, nrows, ttype, tbc col, tform)`

`insertATbl(file, rowlen, nrows, ttype, tbc col, tform, tunit)`

`insertATbl(file, tbltype, nrows, ttype, tbc col, tform, tunit, extname)`

Insert a new ASCII table after current HDU.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_insert_atbl function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

rowlen - row length. If set to 0, the function will calculate size based on tbc col and ttype.

nrows - initial number of rows (normally 0)

ttype - cell array of column type

tbc col - array containing the start indices for each column.

tform - cell array of column format

tunit - cell array of column units

extname - optional extension name

Outputs

None

3.2.7.13 matlab.io.fits.insertBTbl

`insertBTbl(file, nrows, ttype, tform, tunit, extname, pcount)`

Insert a new bintable extension.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_insert_btbl function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

nrows - initial number of rows (normally 0)

ttype - cell array of column type

tform - cell array of column format

tunit - cell array of column units

extname - optional extension name

pcount - heap size.

ttype, *tform*, *tunit* are expected to be the same size.

Outputs

None

3.2.7.14 matlab.io.fits.insertCol

`insertCol(file, colnum, ttype, tform)`

Insert a column into a table.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_insert_col` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - Column to delete from current table.

ttype, tform - column type to insert

Outputs

None

3.2.7.15 matlab.io.fits.insertRows

`insertRows(file, firstrow, numrows)`

Insert rows into a table.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_insert_rows` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

firstrow - Start row to insert from.

numrows - Number of rows to add.

Outputs

None

3.2.7.16 matlab.io.fits.readATblHdr

`[rowlen,nrows,ttype,tbcol,tform,tunit,extname] = readATblHdr(file)`

Get ASCII table parameters.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_atablhdrll` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

rowlen,nrows,ttype,tbcol,tform,tunit,extname - table properties

3.2.7.17 matlab.io.fits.readBTblHdr

`[nrows,ttype,tform,tunit,extname,pcount] = readBTblHdr(file)`

Get Binary table parameters.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio `fits_read_btablhdrll` function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

Outputs

nrows, ttype, tform, tunit, extname, pcount] - table properties

3.2.7.18 matlab.io.fits.readCol

```
[coldata, nullval] = readCol(file, colnum)
[coldata, nullval] = readCol(file, colnum, firstrow, numrows)
```

Get table row data.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_read_col function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

firstrow - Start row

numrows - Number of rows to read

Outputs

coldata - the column data rows

nulldata - the null value flags

Examples

```
import_fits;

# open file
filename = file_in_loadpath("demos/tst0012.fits");
fd = fits.openFile(filename);

# move to binary table and get column for flux
fits.movAbsHDU(fd, 2);
colnum = fits.getColName(fd, 'flux');

# read all rows in column
fluxdata = fits.readCol(fd, colnum);
# read data starting at 2nd value
fluxdata = fits.readCol(fd, colnum, 2);
# read rows 3 rows starting at row 2
fluxdata = fits.readCol(fd, colnum, 2, 3);
fits.closeFile(fd);
```

3.2.7.19 matlab.io.fits.writeCol

```
writeCol(file, colnum, firstrow, data)
```

Write elements to a table.

This is the equivalent of the cfitsio fits_write_col function.

Inputs

file - opened fits file.

colnum - column number.

firstrow - first row number.

data - data to write to column

Outputs

None

3.2.8 Import functions

3.2.8.1 `import_fits`

`import_fits`

Import the fits functions into a `fits.xxxxx` variable, to emulate importing the fits namespace.

Appendix A GNU General Public License

Version 3, 29 June 2007

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Index

B

Basic Usage Overview 2

C

closeFile 6
 copyHDU 9
 copyright 29
 createFile 6
 createImg 16
 createTbl 21

D

deleteCol 22
 deleteFile 7
 deleteHDU 9
 deleteKey 12
 deleteRecord 12
 deleteRows 22

F

fileMode 7
 fileName 7
 fitsdisp 4
 fitsinfo 4
 fitsread 5
 fitswrite 5
 Function Reference 4

G

getAColParms 22
 getBColParms 23
 getColName 23
 getColType 24
 getConstantNames 19
 getConstantValue 19
 getEqColType 24
 getHdrSpace 12
 getHDUnum 9
 getHDUoff 10
 getHDUtype 10
 getImgSize 16
 getImgType 16
 getNumCols 24
 getNumHDUs 10
 getNumRows 24
 getOpenFiles 19
 getRowSize 25
 getVersion 19

H

High Level File Functions 4

I

imgCompress 20
 import_fits 28
 insertATbl 25
 insertBTbl 25
 insertCol 26
 insertImg 17
 insertRows 26
 Installing and loading 1
 isCompressedImg 20

L

Loading 1
 Low level functionality 2
 Low Level Functions 6
 Low Level Functions - Binary and ASCII Tables .. 21
 Low Level Functions - Compression Functions 20
 Low Level Functions - File Functions 6
 Low Level Functions - HDU Functions 8
 Low Level Functions - Image Manipulation 16
 Low Level Functions - Import functions 28
 Low Level Functions - Keyword Functions 11
 Low Level Functions - Utility Functions 19

M

movAbsHDU 10
 movNamHDU 11
 movRelHDU 11

O

Off-line install 1
 Online install 1
 openDiskFile 8
 openFile 8
 Overview 2

R

readATblHdr 26
 readBTblHdr 26
 readCard 12
 readCol 27
 readImg 17
 Reading Data 2
 Reading Information 2
 readKey 13
 readKeyCmplx 13
 readKeyDbl 13
 readKeyLongLong 13
 readKeyLongStr 14
 readKeyUnit 14
 readRecord 14

S

setBscale	17
setCompressionType	20
setHCompScale	20
setHCompSmooth	21
setTileDim	21
setTscale	18

U

Using the toolkit	2
-------------------------	---

W

warranty	29
Windows install	1
writeChecksum	11
writeCol	27
writeComment	14
writeDate	15
writeHistory	15
writeImg	18
writeKey	15
writeKeyUnit	16