
spym

Feb 24, 2023

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`spym` is a Python package for processing Scanning Probe Microscopy (SPM) data, which best integrates with `xarray`, providing an accessor extension to its *DataArrays* and *Datasets*.

You can install spym in your system through pip:

```
$ pip install spym
```

1.1 Prerequisites

Spym extends and is best integrated with the [xarray](#) package, which is required for the installation. Nevertheless, many spym functions can be used directly on numpy arrays (see the Usage section for more information). For signal processing the [scipy](#) package is also required. In the case you need to load and save data from and to NeXus/HDF5 through the *spym.load()* function the [nxarray](#) package is needed.

After installation you can import spym simply with:

```
import spym
```

Now the `spym` accessor will be available to `xarray` objects. For example to apply the `plane()` function to an `xarray` `dataArray`:

```
dr = xarray.DataArray()  
dr.spym.plane()
```

2.1 Examples

The `spym` package is best integrated with `xarray` objects. Here is a typical usage for scanning tunneling microscopy data loaded into an `xarray` `Dataset`:

```
# Import the package  
import spym  
  
# Load the file and show the content  
f = spym.load("/path/to/a/supported/file")  
f  
  
# Select the channel of interest (e.g. Topography_Forward) and show its content  
tf = f.Topography_Forward  
tf  
  
# Align the rows  
tf.spym.align()  
  
# Make plane on the image  
tf.spym.plane()
```

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```
# Fix the minimum to zero
tf.spym.fixzero()

# Plot the image
tf.spym.plot()
```

Many of the `spym` functions are also applicable directly to numpy arrays:

```
from spym.level import align

aligned, background = align(my_array, baseline='median')
```

The documentation of each `spym` method can be accessed with the `?` syntax:

```
dr.spym.plane?
```

See the API Reference section for a list of all the methods available.

2.2 Supported file formats

The `spym` package provides direct imports through the `spym.load()` function for a few file formats, at present:

- RHK SM4 *.sm4
- Omicron Scala *.par
- NeXus/HDF5 *.nxs (nxarray package is needed)

This page contains auto-generated API reference documentation¹.

3.1 spym

3.1.1 Subpackages

`spym.io`

Subpackages

`spym.io.omicronscala`

Package Contents

Functions

<code>load(parFile)</code>	This method load data and metadata associated to an Omicron SCALA .par file.
<code>to_dataset(parFile, scaling=True)</code>	This method load an Omicron SCALA .par file into an xarray Dataset.
<code>to_nexus(parFile, filename=None, **kwargs)</code>	This method convert an Omicron SCALA .par file into a NeXus file.

`spym.io.omicronscala.load(parFile)`

This method load data and metadata associated to an Omicron SCALA .par file.

Args: `parFile`: the name of the .par file to be loaded

¹ Created with sphinx-autoapi

Returns: a container for the channels in the .par file with their data and metadata

Examples: `f = omicronscala.load('/path/to/file.par')` # load the file

`ch0 = f[0]` # assign first channel `ch0.label` # returns channel name label `ch0.data` # returns channel data as a numpy array `ch0.attrs` # returns channel metadata as a dictionary

`spym.io.omicronscala.to_dataset(parFile, scaling=True)`

This method load an Omicron SCALA .par file into an xarray Dataset.

The xarray package is required.

Args: `parFile`: the name of the .par file to be loaded `scaling`: if True convert data to physical units (default), if False keep data in ADC units

Returns: an xarray Dataset

Examples: `ds = omicronscala.to_dataset('/path/to/file.par')`

`ds <xarray.Dataset>`

`ds.Z_Forward <xarray.DataArray>`

`spym.io.omicronscala.to_nexus(parFile, filename=None, **kwargs)`

This method convert an Omicron SCALA .par file into a NeXus file.

The nxarray package is required.

Args: `parFile`: the name of the .par file to be converted `filename`: (optional) path of the NeXus file to be saved. If not provided, a NeXus file is saved in the same folder of the .par file.

****kwargs:** any optional argument accepted by nexus NXdata.save() method

Returns: nothing

Examples: `omicronscala.to_nexus('/path/to/file.par')`

spym.io.rhksm4

Package Contents

Functions

<code>load(sm4file)</code>	This method load data and metadata from an RHK .sm4 file.
<code>to_dataset(sm4file, scaling=True)</code>	This method load an RHK .sm4 file into an xarray Dataset.
<code>to_nexus(sm4file, filename=None, **kwargs)</code>	This method convert an RHK .sm4 file into a NeXus file.

`spym.io.rhksm4.load(sm4file)`

This method load data and metadata from an RHK .sm4 file.

Args: `sm4file`: the name of the .sm4 file to be loaded

Returns: a container for the pages in the .sm4 file with their data and metadata

Examples: `f = rhksm4.load('/path/to/file.sm4')` # load the file

`p0 = f[0]` # assign first page in the file `p0.label` # returns page label name `p0.data` # returns page data as a

numpy array `p0.attrs` # returns page metadata as a dictionary

`spym.io.rhksm4.to_dataset(sm4file, scaling=True)`

This method load an RHK .sm4 file into an xarray Dataset.

The xarray package is required.

Args: `sm4file`: the name of the .sm4 file to be loaded `scaling`: if True convert data to physical units (default), if False keep data in ADC units

Returns: an xarray Dataset

Examples: `ds = rhksm4.to_dataset('/path/to/file.sm4')`

`ds <xarray.Dataset>`

`ds.IDxxxxx <xarray.DataArray>`

`spym.io.rhksm4.to_nexus(sm4file, filename=None, **kwargs)`

This method convert an RHK .sm4 file into a NeXus file.

The nxarray package is required.

Args: `sm4file`: the name of the .sm4 file to be converted `filename`: (optional) path of the NeXus file to be saved.

If not provided, a NeXus file is saved in the same folder of the .sm4 file.

****kwargs**: any optional argument accepted by nexus NXdata.save() method

Returns: nothing

Examples: `rhksm4.to_nexus('/path/to/file.sm4')`

Submodules

`spym.io.load`

Module Contents

Functions

<code>load(filename, scaling=True)</code>	Import data from common SPM file formats.
<code>convert(filename, folder=None)</code>	Convert data from supported SPM file formats to NeXus/HDF5.

`spym.io.load.load(filename, scaling=True)`

Import data from common SPM file formats.

Currently supported file formats are:

- NeXus (.nx, .nxs). Package nxarray is needed.
- RHK (.sm4).
- Omicron Scala (.par).

Args: `filename`: path to the SPM file. `scaling`: if True convert data to physical units (default), if False keep raw data.

Returns: xarray Dataset with data and metadata.

`spym.io.load.convert` (*filename*, *folder=None*)

Convert data from supported SPM file formats to NeXus/HDF5.

Args: filename: path to the SPM file. folder: (optional) path for converted files. If not provided, converted files are placed in the same folder of the originals.

Returns: Nothing.

Package Contents

Functions

<i>load</i>	
<i>convert</i> (filename, folder=None)	Convert data from supported SPM file formats to NeXus/HDF5.

`spym.io.load` (*filename*, *scaling=True*)

Import data from common SPM file formats.

Currently supported file formats are:

- NeXus (.nx, .nxs). Package `nxarray` is needed.
- RHK (.sm4).
- Omicron Scala (.par).

Args: filename: path to the SPM file. scaling: if True convert data to physical units (default), if False keep raw data.

Returns: xarray Dataset with data and metadata.

`spym.io.convert` (*filename*, *folder=None*)

Convert data from supported SPM file formats to NeXus/HDF5.

Args: filename: path to the SPM file. folder: (optional) path for converted files. If not provided, converted files are placed in the same folder of the originals.

Returns: Nothing.

`spym.plotting`

Package Contents

Classes

<i>Plotting</i>	Plotting.
-----------------	-----------

class `spym.plotting.Plotting` (*spym_instance*)

Plotting.

plot (*self*, *title=None*, *waterfall=False*, *waterfall_limit=15*, ***kwargs*)

Plot data with custom parameters using matplotlib.

Args: title: (optional) title of the figure (string). By default gives some basic information on the data

plotted. Pass an empty string to disable it. `waterfall`: (optional) boolean determining if plot spectrum data as waterfall (default is False). `waterfall_limit`: (optional) number of spectra above which spectrum data is plotted as image instead of waterfall (default is 15). ****kwargs**: any argument accepted by `xarray.plot()` function.

hvplot (*self*, *title=None*, ****kwargs**)

Plot data with custom parameters using hvplot.

Args: `title`: (optional) title of the figure (string). By default gives some basic information on the data plotted. Pass an empty string to disable it. ****kwargs**: any argument accepted by `hvplot()` function.

spym.process

Submodules

spym.process.filters

Module Contents

Classes

<i>Filters</i>	Filters.
----------------	----------

Functions

<i>gauss</i> (image, size=3)	Apply Gaussian smoothing filter.
<i>median</i> (image, size=3)	Apply median smoothing filter.
<i>mean</i> (image, size=3)	Apply mean smoothing filter.
<i>sharpen</i> (image, size=3, alpha=30)	Apply a sharpening filter.
<i>destripe</i> (image, min_length=20, hard_threshold=0.4, soft_threshold=0.2, sign='positive', rel_threshold=None)	Find and remove scan stripes by averaging neighbourhood lines.

class `spym.process.filters.Filters` (*spym_instance*)

Filters.

gauss (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Apply Gaussian smoothing filter.

Args: `size`: size of the filter in pixels.

median (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Apply median smoothing filter.

Args: `size`: size of the filter in pixels.

mean (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Apply mean smoothing filter.

Args: `size`: size of the filter in pixels.

sharpen (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Apply a sharpening filter.

Args: size: size of the filter in pixels. alpha: weight.

destripe (*self*, ***kwargs*)

Find and remove scan stripes by averaging neighbourhood lines.

Args: min_length: only scars that are as long or longer than this value (in pixels) will be marked. hard_threshold: the minimum difference of the value from the neighbouring upper and lower lines to be considered a defect. soft_threshold: values differing at least this much do not form defects themselves, but they are attached to defects obtained from the hard threshold if they touch one. sign: whether mark stripes with positive values, negative values or both. rel_threshold: the minimum difference of the value from the neighbouring upper and lower lines to be considered a defect (in physical values). Overwrite hard_threshold.

Returns: destriped 2d array.

`spym.process.filters.gauss (image, size=3)`

Apply Gaussian smoothing filter.

Args: image: numpy array. size: size of the filter in pixels.

Returns: filtered numpy array.

`spym.process.filters.median (image, size=3)`

Apply median smoothing filter.

Args: image: numpy array. size: size of the filter in pixels.

Returns: filtered numpy array.

`spym.process.filters.mean (image, size=3)`

Apply mean smoothing filter.

Args: image: numpy array. size: size of the filter in pixels.

Returns: filtered numpy array.

`spym.process.filters.sharpen (image, size=3, alpha=30)`

Apply a sharpening filter.

Args: image: numpy array. size: size of the filter in pixels. alpha: weight.

Returns: filtered numpy array.

`spym.process.filters.destripe (image, min_length=20, hard_threshold=0.4, soft_threshold=0.2, sign='positive', rel_threshold=None)`

Find and remove scan stripes by averaging neighbourhood lines.

Args: image: 2d numpy array. min_length: only scars that are as long or longer than this value (in pixels) will be marked. hard_threshold: the minimum difference of the value from the neighbouring upper and lower lines to be considered a defect. soft_threshold: values differing at least this much do not form defects themselves, but they are attached to defects obtained from the hard threshold if they touch one. sign: whether mark stripes with positive values, negative values or both. rel_threshold: the minimum difference of the value from the neighbouring upper and lower lines to be considered a defect (in physical values). Overwrite hard_threshold.

Returns: destriped 2d array.

`spym.process.level`

Module Contents

Classes

<i>Level</i>	Level.
--------------	--------

Functions

<i>fixzero</i> (image, to_mean=False)	Add a constant to all the data to move the minimum (or the mean value) to zero.
<i>plane</i> (image)	Corrects for image tilting by subtraction of a plane.
<i>align</i> (image, baseline='mean', axis=1, poly_degree=2)	Align rows.

class spym.process.level.**Level** (*spym_instance*)

Level.

fixzero (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Add a constant to all the data to move the minimum (or the mean value) to zero.

Args: to_mean: bool, optional. If true move mean value to zero, if false move minimum to zero (default).

plane (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Corrects for sample tilting by subtraction of a plane.

align (*self*, ****kwargs**)

Align rows.

Args: baseline: defines how baselines are estimated; 'mean' (default), 'median', 'poly'. axis: axis along which calculate the baselines. poly_degree: polynomial degree if baseline='poly'.

spym.process.level.**fixzero** (*image*, to_mean=False)

Add a constant to all the data to move the minimum (or the mean value) to zero.

Args: image: numpy array. to_mean: bool, optional. If true move mean value to zero, if false move minimum to zero (default).

Returns: numpy array.

spym.process.level.**plane** (*image*)

Corrects for image tilting by subtraction of a plane.

Args: image: 2d numpy array.

Returns: flattened image as 2d numpy array.

spym.process.level.**align** (*image*, baseline='mean', axis=1, poly_degree=2)

Align rows.

Args: image: 2d numpy array. baseline: defines how baselines are estimated; 'mean' (default), 'median', 'poly'. axis: axis along which calculate the baselines. poly_degree: polynomial degree if baseline='poly'.

Returns: corrected 2d numpy array.

Package Contents

Classes

<i>Filters</i>	Filters.
<i>Level</i>	Level.

class spym.process.**Filters** (spym_instance)

Filters.

gauss (self, **kwargs)

Apply Gaussian smoothing filter.

Args: size: size of the filter in pixels.

median (self, **kwargs)

Apply median smoothing filter.

Args: size: size of the filter in pixels.

mean (self, **kwargs)

Apply mean smoothing filter.

Args: size: size of the filter in pixels.

sharpen (self, **kwargs)

Apply a sharpening filter.

Args: size: size of the filter in pixels. alpha: weight.

destripe (self, **kwargs)

Find and remove scan stripes by averaging neighbourhood lines.

Args: min_length: only scars that are as long or longer than this value (in pixels) will be marked. hard_threshold: the minimum difference of the value from the neighbouring upper and lower lines to be considered a defect. soft_threshold: values differing at least this much do not form defects themselves, but they are attached to defects obtained from the hard threshold if they touch one. sign: whether mark stripes with positive values, negative values or both. rel_threshold: the minimum difference of the value from the neighbouring upper and lower lines to be considered a defect (in physical values). Overwrite hard_threshold.

Returns: destriped 2d array.

class spym.process.**Level** (spym_instance)

Level.

fixzero (self, **kwargs)

Add a constant to all the data to move the minimum (or the mean value) to zero.

Args: to_mean: bool, optional. If true move mean value to zero, if false move minimum to zero (default).

plane (self, **kwargs)

Corrects for sample tilting by subtraction of a plane.

align (self, **kwargs)

Align rows.

Args: baseline: defines how baselines are estimated; 'mean' (default), 'median', 'poly'. axis: axis along which calculate the baselines. poly_degree: polynomial degree if baseline='poly'.

spym is part of the [reScipy project](#).

CHAPTER 4

Feedback

Please report any feedback, bugs, or feature requests by opening an issue on the [issue tracker](#) of the code repository. You should provide as much information as possible to reproduce the problem, and details of your desiderata.

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