v1.0.4 -- Sep 19, 2024

PypeIt Users Slack Guidelines

The PypeIt team endeavors to provide its user base with assistance on data reduction beyond readthedocs and standard GitHub Issues through its own PypeIt Users Slack Workspace.

To better assist you and the broader community, we kindly ask that you follow these guidelines:

1. Adhere to the PypeIt Code of Conduct
2. Review the PypeIt documentation and any spectrograph specific docs
3. Look over the examples in the PypeIt-development-suite for your instrument
   a. Many questions can be answered from the Development suite.
   b. Note also that PypeIt passes all development suite tests by construction, so if you are experiencing crashes with these tests, it is likely a case of user error such as a data path issue or a problem with PypeIt installation.
4. Confirm you are using the latest stable release of PypeIt as given in the version number here and by using the *pypeit_version* script
   a. Note that the **release** branch is the latest stable release of PypeIt.
   b. Use that branch if possible
5. Confirm that if you updated the code, you wiped all previous output folders before running
   a. Masters, Science, QA, etc.
6. Confirm that all of your frames in your PypeIt file have the correct frametype. This can be done easily with the pypeit_view_fits script which allows you to view any file in ginga.
7. If you wish to request assistance on Slack, please:
   a. Post in the most relevant #channel
   b. Please avoid using @channel or @here or @everyone unless you are sure it is necessary
   c. Report your current version of PypeIt and, if relevant, the branch you are on
   d. Describe the documentation you were following (as applicable)
   e. If there was a crash, paste in a substantial portion of your trace
   f. Include screen shots of relevant images, QA, etc.
   g. Provide a link to your raw files and a PypeIt file in a GoogleDrive or Dropbox link.
   h. Upload a copy of the PypeIt file

        i.   Note that it is easier for us to help you if you trim down the PypeIt file and the data you upload to only those files required to reproduce the crash, i.e. if you are reducing 10 science frames and the 9th one crashes, we only need a pypeit file reducing that one file which causes the crash.

    i.   For all screenshots please adhere to the PypeIt convention for displaying images, which is that the spectral direction is oriented vertically with blue at the bottom, and echelle orders are displayed from left to right in order of increasing wavelength. PypeIt scripts using ginga will display images according to this convention by default. Avoid re-orienting images to suit your own preferences since this serves to confuse the developers trying to help you. Best is that you use the pypeit_show_2dspec script to show reduced data, and pypeit_view_fits script to display the raw data (or processed data using the --proc option, or with –bkg_file to perform A-B differencing) rather than ds9, which orients the images differently.

8. If advised, raise an [Issue on GitHub](#)
9. PypeIt is currently developed by just a handful of people at present (all of whom have other obligations). Your contributions to this open source project would be greatly appreciated. You can contribute by:
   a. Consult the [development guidelines](#)
   b. forking the code and improving the documentation.
   c. forking the code and improving the code/algorithms. If you are new to PypeIt, it would be best if you consulted with the development team in the #development channel.
   d. Your changes will be reviewed and added to the code base via a github pull request.
10. If asked, share your data to be included in the [Development Suite](#) for testing PypeIt.
    a. Note that the code of conduct prohibits other scientists from using your data for science, if it is proprietary.