The First Swift/UVOT Serendipitous Source Catalogue

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On behalf of the UVOT team:

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MNRAS 2013, 434, 1955

Astro Siesta - 29/02/2015

Google Maps

https://www.google.it/maps/dir/Via+Edoardo+Bassini,+15,+20133+Milano/35+N+Gower+St,...



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Mullard Space Science Laboratory University College London

- Established 1966 in Holmbury St. Mary (Surrey) in the Holmbury House grounds (30 acres) on Holmbury Hill 857 feet (4th highest point in Surrey) Sir Harrie Massey (1908-1983)
- First settlement dates back to Iron age (1000-500 BC)





- Built on 1870 for Hon. Fredrick Leveson-Gower on the remains of an old farm house ("The Deacon" 1367)
- Sold to Sir. James Stevenson in 1919 joint manager director of Johnnie Walker
- Sold to Arthur Ernest Guinnes
- 1940-1950: 13th Maharaja of Boroda
- 1950-1965: Salmon's Cross School
- 1965: Donated to UCL by Mullard Ltd



Mullard Space Science Laboratory University College London

- UK's largest university space group.
- Over **35** satellite missions. Over **200** rocket experiments.
- Gaia, Euclid Plato, Herschel, XMM, Swift
- Scientists, mechanical and electronic designers, engineers, technicians.
- Capability to design, build and test in-house.



Science areas:

- Astrophysics
- Solar Physics
- Space Plasmas
- •Planetary Science
- Earth observations
- Instrument/Detector
 Science

In-house engineering and electronic capabilities



Swift/UV-Optical Telescope (UVOT) (2004-)

But also Optical Monitor Camera (OMC) on Integral and Optical Monitor (OM) on XMM









- diam: 30 cm
- f/12.7 --> 3.8m focal length
-170-650nm (optical-UV)
- U, B, V, UVW1, UVM2, UVW2
- UV and optical grisms
- field of view: 17x17 arcmin
- pixel size: 0.5 arcsec
- sensitivity: B=24.7 (1 hr, 5σ)
-~4m ground-based telescope

The UVOT Serendipitous Source Catalogue

- A catalogue of UV sources observed serendipitously* during UVOT images
- A 5-year project led by MSSL on behalf of the UVOT team.
- A uniform product in terms of astrometry, photometry, and morphological properties.
- An easy route for astronomers to obtain UVOT-derived source parameters without having to analyse UVOT data.





- GSC2 Guide Star Catalogue 2 (1998-2000) Lasker et al., 2008 AJ, 136,735
- ESO Imaging Survey (2000-2002) Momany et al., 2001, A&A, 379, 436 Arnouts et al., 2001, A&A, 379, 740 Vandame et al., 2001, arXiv:0102300 Hatziminaoglou et al., 2002, A&A, 384, 81 Groenewegen et al., 2002, A&A, 392, 741
- XMM-Serendipitous Ultraviolet Source Survey Catalogue (2010-2012) Page et al., 2012, MNRAS, 426, 903
- FORS Instrument Operation Scientist (2002-2006)



How was it made?

- We took all the UVOT images taken by Swift between 2005 and 2010.
- A complete processing pipeline was constructed:
 - Running from raw data to the complete catalogue.
 - Drawing on our experience with the XMM-OM Serendipitous Ultraviolet Source Survey (XMM-SUSS*).
 - Based around the standard UVOT ftools available in HEASOFT.
 - Using the latest calibration data currently available.

* Page et al. 2012, MNRAS, 426, 903

Challenges

- Terabytes of data to process.
- Large dynamic range of the images:
 - images with almost zero background to images with thousands of counts per pixel in the background.
- Complex, structured backgrounds around nebulae and galaxies.
- Millions of sources.
- Non-linearity of the detector (co-incidence loss) in bright sources.
- Artefacts related to bright sources.

Reduction Steps

□ Stage-1: Reduce the Mod-8 noise pattern; generate a quality map

- □ Stage-2: Sky-rotation and aspect correction
- □ Stage-3: Stack different exposure images to a single image
- □ Stage-4: Source detection (main task: customised *uvotdetect*)
- □ Stage-5: Build individual source catalogues for different observations
- □ Stage-6: Merge individual catalogues into a single catalogue
- □ Stage-7: Sort the catalogue by RA
- □ Stage-8: Remove low-significance sources
- □ Stage-9: Identify repeated sources and assign individual source numbers

- Algorithms were written to identify and/or predict read-out streaks, smoke rings, wings of bright sources, sources with large co-I loss, diffraction spikes, etc.
- Artefacts are tracked through to detected sources using "quality maps".
- Propagate to "quality flags" in final catalogue so you know how reliable each source is.

Customisation of the source detection routine

SExtractor in uvotdetect extrapolates the background and background-sigma maps outside of the limits of the sky-rotated image

Customisation of the source detection routine

The background-sigma map is truncated by using the exposure map and is passed as an input file to the second call of SExtractor in the customised uvotdetect task

Astrometry: dec_err vs ra_err

Astrometry: ra_err vs ra dec

00030988074 00030988061

OBSID

Photometry: mag_err vs mag

Weird distribution due to astrometry affecting OBS ID 00030988074, 00030988061

Photometry: mag vs flux

Source detection

Sky coverage

Distribution of the UVOT exposure for 2005-2010 observations in Galactic coordinates.

What's in the UVOTSSC catalogue ?

Each unique source has a unique identifier.

Sources are given an independent entry (i.e. line of parameters) for each Swift observation ID in which they are detected.

Period of observations	2005 - 2010
Total observations	23059
Total sources	6 200 016
Repeated observations	2 027 265
Total entry lines	13 860 569

As there are 82 columns per source entry, the catalogue table contains > 1 billion cells.

UVW2<24.3	U<24.1
UVM2<24.1	B<24.3
UVW1<24.3	V<23.8

Source table

To convert to AB UVW2 add 1.71 UVM2 add 1.64 UVW1 add 1.36 U add 0.93 B sub 0.18 V sub 0.04

Comparison to other UV catalogues

Natural comparison UV catalogues are:

- GALEX surveys (AIS, MIS, DIS)
 - UVOT SSC reaches 2 mag deeper than the GALEX confusion limit.
 - UVOT SSC has finer spectral discrimination than GALEX (GALEX NUV = UVW1+UVM2+UVW2).
 - Simpler, more reliable optical counterpart matching in UVOTSSC than GALEX because of UVOT's smaller PSF.
- and the XMM-SUSS v2. (Talavera et al., in prep)
 - UVOT SSC is more than 2 times larger than XMM-SUSS v2.
 - UVOT SSC reaches about 2 mag deeper than XMM-SUSS in UVW2 and 1.5 mag deeper in UVM2.

New parameter space that hasn't been explored before.

Number of sources as a function of source magnitude

What can it be used for?

- Identifying and measuring hot stars, especially in binaries.
- Extinction mapping the Galaxy.
- UV measurements, selection, luminosity functions of galaxies, cosmic star-formation history.
- SEDs and extinction constraints of star-forming galaxies.
- UV measurements of low-redshift quasars for SEDs etc.
- Measuring the intergalactic opacity of the Lyman forest below z=2.
- Classification of X-ray sources, e.g. from the XRT catalogues.
- Identifying the UV or optical counterparts of pulsars in binaries.
- Identifying flare stars.
- Studies of variable stars and novae in quiescence.
- Identifying low-redshift lyman break analogues.
- Plenty of other things besides.
- Select objects with peculiar colours (UV wrt IR)

Binary pulsars studies with multi-wavelength sky surveys. I. Companion star identification 2014, MNRAS, 443, 2223

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Binary pulsar studies with multi-wavelength sky surveys. II. Companion star follow ups 2015, MNRAS, to be submitted

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Is the catalogue available?

YES!

- Beta-release version available now (UVOT SSC V0.99).
- Currently making its way into MAST.
- Get it now in table form from:

http://www.ucl.ac.uk/mssl/astro/space_missions/swift/uvotssc

- Please start using it.
- Just a few tweaks and some more validation before we release V1.0
- V1.0 should be served to the virtual observatory too.

The FUTURE:

- We've only processed data up to 2010
- Obvious enhancement to UVOTSSC:
- Process the next 5 years data.
- Double the size of the catalogue.

