

# SimpleTimeSeries Overview

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# History and TL;DR

- Light curve data collected for analysis (2010)  
<http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/CSPTIMEseries>  
<http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/LightCurves>
- John Brewer put together a schema for Josh Bloom's group,  
<http://www.cacr.caltech.edu/hotwired2/book/chapters/TimeSeries.pdf>
- Arnold suggested revisions for consistency
- No response from berkely, STS is as it is
- STS reviewed by DM w/ agreement to publish as a Note (Feb13)
- Final STS Note published May14

# SimpleTimeSeries

Four basic elements:

**<TIMESYS>** - contains details of time system used (units, defaults) and whether period folded data

**<BAND>** - description of bandpasses used, allowing multi-bp data in same document

**<FIELD>** - UCD references to fields used

**<SERIES>** - one or more **<ELEM>** containing the data itself

# <TIMESYS>

```
<TIMESYS>
  <TimeType ucd="time;pos.frame;pos.heliocentric"
    unit="day">hjd</TimeType>
  <TimeZero ucd="time.epoch;arith.zp" unit="day">0</
    TimeZero>
  <!-- describe the progress of the time axis -->
  <TimeUnits ucd='time.epoch' datatype='float'
    unit='day' />
  <TimeWidthDefault ucd="time.period"
    unit="seconds">10.0</TimeWidthDefault>
  <TimeSystem ucd="frame.time.scale">UTC</TimeSystem>
</TIMESYS>
```

# <BAND> and <FIELD>

```
<BAND ucd="instr.filter;em.opt" bandid="I" description="This  
is the Johnson-Cousins I-band">I</BAND>
```

```
<BAND ucd="instr.filter;em.opt" bandid="V">V</BAND>
```

```
<FIELD fld="imag" bandid="I" ucd="opt;phot;i" datatype="float"  
unit="mag">I-band photometry</FIELD>
```

```
<FIELD fld="vmag" bandid="V" ucd="opt;phot;v" datatype="float"  
unit="mag">V-band photometry</FIELD>
```

# <SERIES>

```
<SERIES>
  <ELEM>
    <TIME><T>2448919.8</T></TIME>
    <MAG fld="imag"><VAL>17.535</VAL><ERR>0.03</ERR></MAG>
    <MAG fld="vmag"><VAL>17.327</VAL><ERR>0.03</ERR></MAG>
  </ELEM>
  <ELEM>
    <TIME>2448920.72</T>
    <MAG fld="vmag"><VAL>17.37</VAL><ERR>0.036</ERR></MAG>
  </ELEM>
  <ELEM>
    <TIME><T>2448922.82</T></TIME>
    <MAG fld="imag"><VAL>17.697</VAL></MAG>
    <MAG fld="vmag"><VAL>17.424</VAL></MAG>
  </ELEM>
</SERIES>
```

# STS Limitations

- SimpleTimeSeries meets all of the IVOA science use cases for time series except for those where time is not the dependent variable, e.g., frequency with astroseismology data.
- SimpleTimeSeries cannot be used to represent power spectra.
- However, it can be argued that both of these are really spectra and so the Spectral DM serializations should be used to represent such data rather than a time series.



# IVOA DM Compatibility

- *See Sec 3 of STS Note for details*
- However, generally good agreement in mapping
- Some issues with Spatial Axis, e.g. STS allows unit differences between values and their errors.

# Alternatives

<http://hea-www.harvard.edu/~arots/nvometa/STC/TimeSeriesTableFormats.pdf>

STC-based representation, but lacks UCD/Utype attributes on values