

{{lastupdated_at}} by {{lastupdated_by}}

Printing

Introduction

Every GammaLib class should implement a `print()` method so that information about the object can be obtained by the user. The `print()` method will return a string that can be dumped on a terminal or into a log file. The `print()` method will taken an integer argument that specified the chattiness of information that should be put into the string. The following chatter level are defined:

- `chatter=0`: Level **silent**. No information is printed, except of errors
- `chatter=1`: Level **terse**. Only summary information is printed.
- `chatter=2`: Level **normal**. Normal level of information, useful for understanding the class content.
- `chatter=3`: Level **explicit**. Detailed information, useful for understanding the inner workings of the classes.
- `chatter=4`: Level **verbose**. Produces the maximum information, useful for debugging.

The chattiness is implemented using the `GChatter` type, which is an enumeration that can take the following values:

- `SILENT`
- `TERSE`
- `NORMAL`
- `EXPLICIT`
- `VERBOSE`

Guidelines

Here some guidelines for the implementation of each chatter level.

SILENT

At this level the `print()` method should in general return an empty string, unless that some error information is to be printed.

TERSE

At this level, the `print()` method should only provide a couple of lines. In particular, the content of a class (i.e. observations, events, photons, ...) should not be displayed.

NORMAL

This is the normal information level. The `print()` method should provide all information relevant that is relevant for a gamma-ray analysis. For example, the observation container will display summary information for each observation.

EXPLICIT

At this level, the `print()` method should provide also information about the detailed content of an object. For example, the `GPhotons` class will print all photons it contains.

VERBOSE

At this level, the `print()` method should also display information that is useful for debugging, such as internal cache states, etc.