

AN UPDATED IUE RDAF SOFTWARE PACKAGE

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Updated versions of the IUE RDAF software package, designed to be compatible with SunOS Sparc, Ultrix Mipsel, and VMS VAX platforms running IDL Version 2, are now available for distribution. This software package can be transferred electronically to hosts which can access the INTERNET or DECNET network systems. For NASA, these systems are supported as part of the NASA Science Internet. The network nodes which currently have this software available at Goddard Space Flight Center are ieves1.gsfc.nasa.gov (INTERNET) and IUE (DECNET). At the University of Colorado the corresponding nodes are cetus.colorado.edu and CARINA.

For the INTERNET nodes listed above, transfer of files containing the software package and associated databases can be accomplished via the ftp command. The above nodes support a restricted ftp access by accepting "anonymous" or "ftp" as a username and an arbitrary string, by convention the user's email address, as the password. The "pub" directory within the anonymous ftp account contains the ascii text files "README", "INSTALL", and "DOC" which give detailed information on the transfer and installation of the RDAF software and databases. Additionally, the "pub/tutorial" directory contains a current version of the GSFC RDAF USER'S tutorial in several formats and the "pub/manuals" directory contains supplemental documentation for the RDAF procedures. (Note: the files are located in "pub/iuerdaf", "pub/iuerdaf/tutorial", and "pub/iuerdaf/manuals" in the ftp distribution account maintained on cetus.colorado.edu.)

File transfers from the DECNET nodes can be accomplished via the network copy command from the `CARINA::DISK5:[IUEDIST]` directory or the `IUE::IUEORDER` account.

This software package represents the culmination of recent development efforts at the IUE RDAF at GSFC and the CURDAF at the University of Colorado to transform the standard RDAF software, initially developed in the Interactive Data Language (IDL) on a PDP-11, into a portable package for a variety of modern workstations and commonly available computer systems. This software package has been in use, in some form, by the general astronomical community for a decade and its evolution has been substantially affected by input from this community. The evolution of the software has also been affected by changes in

computer hardware technology over the decade of its existence. Consequently, the present package contains many enhancements which take advantage of the windowing environment provided by workstations, but it can also be used on relatively "dumb" terminals with tektronix graphics emulation. The software package requires an installation of IDL Version 2 to run on the host machine.

This version of the RDAF software package includes FITS formatting software and provides for the conversion of RDAF format disk files to formats compatible with the various host machine operating systems and architectures. Routines which can automate the network transfer of IUE data from the new NSSDC online archive (NDADS) are also included.

This software is free. It is supported by the IUE RDAFs and is intended to facilitate the analysis of IUE data by the general astronomical community. Questions and comments about the software packages can be directed to the authors. The use of E-mail is encouraged (jerry@iuesn1.gsfc.nasa.gov or allison@cetus.colorado.edu).