



METAS UncLib Python - User Reference V2.8.0

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1 Introduction

This document is a quick reference sheet. For practical demonstrations and more details refer to the tutorial and the examples that are provided with the installation of the software.

The [METAS UncLib Python](#) library is an extension to Python, which supports creation of uncertainty objects and subsequent calculation with them as well as storage of the results. It's able to handle complex-valued and multivariate quantities. It has been developed with Python V3.6 using the [numpy](#) (1.16.1) and the [pythonnet](#) (2.3.0) packages. It requires the C# library [METAS UncLib](#) in the background. There are three modules for uncertainty propagation: [LinProp](#), [DistProp](#) and [MCProp](#).

LinProp supports linear uncertainty propagation $V_{out} = J V_{in} J'$.

DistProp supports higher order uncertainty propagation, i.e. higher order terms of the Taylor expansion of the measurement equation are taken into account.¹

MCProp supports Monte Carlo propagation.¹

2 Global uncertainty settings

`from metas_unclib import *` Import METAS UncLib.

`use_linprop()` Use the linear uncertainty propagation.

`use_distprop(maxlevel=1)` Use the higher order uncertainty propagation.

The argument `maxlevel` specifies the higher order uncertainty propagation maximum level. Default value: 1 (1 corresponds to [LinProp](#))

`use_mcprop(n=100000)` Use the Monte Carlo uncertainty propagation.

The argument `n` specifies the Monte Carlo uncertainty propagation sample size. Default value: 100000

¹preliminary implementation



3 Create an uncertainty object

Square brackets indicate vector or matrix.

`x = ufloat(value)` Creates a new uncertain number without uncertainties.

`x = ufloat(value, stdunc, idof=0.0, id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new real uncertain number with value, standard uncertainty, inverse degrees of freedom (optional), an ID (optional) and a description (optional).

`x = ucomplex(value, [covariance], idof=0.0, id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new complex uncertain number. Covariance size: 2×2 . Covariance normalized to $dof = n - 2$.

`x = ufloatarray([value], [covariance], idof=0.0, id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new real uncertain array. Covariance size: $N \times N$. Covariance normalized to $dof = n - N$.

`x = ucomplexarray([value], [covariance], idof=0.0, id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new complex uncertain array. Covariance size: $2N \times 2N$. Covariance normalized to $dof = n - 2N$.

`x = ufloatfromsamples([samples], id=None, desc=None, p=0.95)` Creates a new real uncertain number from samples with an ID (optional), a description (optional) and a probability (optional). Samples size: n where n is the number of observations.

`x = ucomplexfromsamples([samples], id=None, desc=None, p=0.95)` Creates a new complex uncertain number from samples with an ID (optional), a description (optional) and a probability (optional). Samples size: n where n is the number of observations. The complex uncertain number contains the correlation between real and imaginary parts.

`x = ufloatarrayfromsamples([samples], id=None, desc=None, p=0.95)` Creates a new real uncertain array from samples with an ID (optional), a description (optional) and a probability (optional). Samples size: $n \times N$ where n is the number of observations and N is the number of dimensions. The real uncertain array contains the correlation between the different entries.

`x = ucomplexarrayfromsamples([samples], id=None, desc=None, p=0.95)` Creates a new complex uncertain array from samples with an ID (optional), a description (optional) and a probability (optional). Samples size: $n \times N$ where n is the number of observations and N is the number of dimensions. The complex uncertain array contains the correlation between real and the imaginary parts and the different entries.

`x = ufloatfromrandomchoices([samples], id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new real uncertain number from random choices with an ID (optional) and a description (optional). Samples size: n where n is the number of observations.



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`x = ucomplexfromrandomchoices([samples], id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new complex uncertain number from random choices with an ID (optional) and a description (optional). Samples size: n where n is the number of observations. The complex uncertain number contains the correlation between real and imaginary parts.

`x = ufloatarrayfromrandomchoices([samples], id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new real uncertain array from random choices with an ID (optional) and a description (optional). Samples size: $n \times N$ where n is the number of observations and N is the number of dimensions. The real uncertain array contains the correlation between the different entries.

`x = ucomplexarrayfromrandomchoices([samples], id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new complex uncertain array from random choices with an ID (optional) and a description (optional). Samples size: $n \times N$ where n is the number of observations and N is the number of dimensions. The complex uncertain array contains the correlation between real and the imaginary parts and the different entries.

`x = ufloatfromdistribution(distribution, id=None, desc=None)` Creates a new real uncertain number from a distribution with an ID (optional) and a description (optional).

`x = ufloatsystem(value, [sys_inputs], [sys_sensitivities])` Creates a new real uncertain number by setting sensitivities with respect to uncertain inputs.²

3.1 Distributions

`StandardNormalDistribution()` Creates a normal distribution with $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$.

`NormalDistribution(mu, sigma)` Creates a normal distribution with μ and σ .

`StandardUniformDistribution()` Creates an uniform distribution between $a = 0$ and $b = 1$.

`UniformDistribution(a, b)` Creates an uniform distribution between a and b .

`CurvilinearTrapezoidDistribution(a, b, d)` Creates a curvilinear trapezoid distribution between $a \pm d$ and $b \pm d$.

`TrapezoidalDistribution(a, b, beta)` Creates a trapezoidal distribution between a and b with β .

`TriangularDistribution(a, b)` Creates a triangular distribution between a and b .

`ArcSineDistribution(a, b)` Creates an arc sine distribution between a and b .

`ExponentialDistribution(mu)` Creates an exponential distribution with μ .

`GammaDistribution(a, b)` Creates a gamma distribution with shape a and scale b .

²LinProp uncertainty objects only



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`ChiSquaredDistribution(k)` Creates a chi-squared distribution with degrees of freedom k .

`StudentTDistribution(mu, sigma, dof)` Creates a Student T distribution with μ , σ and dof .

`StudentTFromSamplesDistribution([samples])` Creates a Student T distribution from samples.

`RandomChoicesFromSamples(seed, [samples])` Creates random choices from samples with a seed.



4 Calculations with uncertainty objects

4.1 Math functions

- `x + y`
- `x * y`
- `x ** y3`
- `x - y`
- `x / y`
- `-x`
- `umath.pow(x, y)`
- `umath.sqrt(x)`
- `umath.sin(x)`
- `umath.sinh(x)`
- `umath.real(x)`
- `umath.exp(x)`
- `umath.cos(x)`
- `umath.cosh(x)`
- `umath.imag(x)`
- `umath.log(x)`
- `umath.tan(x)`
- `umath.tanh(x)`
- `umath.abs(x)`
- `umath.log10(x)`
- `umath.asin(x)`
- `umath.asinh(x)`
- `umath.angle(x)`
- `umath.ellipk(x)`
- `umath.acos(x)`
- `umath.acosh(x)`
- `umath.conj(x)`
- `umath.ellipse(x)`
- `umath.atan(x)`
- `umath.atanh(x)`

4.2 Linear algebra

`ulinalg.dot(M1, M2)` Matrix multiplication of matrix M_1 and M_2

`ulinalg.det(M)` Determinate of matrix M

`ulinalg.inv(M)` Matrix inverse of M

`ulinalg.solve(A, Y)` Solve linear equation system: $Ax = y$

`ulinalg.lstsqrsolve(A, Y)` Least square solve over determined equation system using QR decomposition

`ulinalg.weightedlstsqrsolve(A, Y, W)` Weighted least square solve over determined equation system using QR decomposition

`ulinalg.generallstsqrsolve(A, Y, V)` General least square solve over determined equation system using QR decomposition

`L, U, P = ulinalg.lu(M)` LU decomposition of matrix M

`L = ulinalg.cholesky(M)` Cholesky decomposition of matrix M

`Q, R = ulinalg.qr(M)` QR decomposition of matrix M

`U, S, V = ulinalg.svd(M)` Single value decomposition of matrix M

`V, D = ulinalg.eig(A0)` Eigenvalue problem²: $A_0V = VD$

`V, D = ulinalg.eig(A0, A1, A2, ..., An-1)` Non-linear eigenvalue problem²: $A_0V + A_1VD + A_2VD^2 + \dots + A_{(n-1)}VD^{(n-1)} = 0$

²`LinProp` uncertainty objects only

³`**` is the power operator



4.3 Numerical routines

`unumlib.polyfit(x, y, n)` Fit polynom to data

`unumlib.polyval(p, x)` Evaluate polynom

`unumlib.interpolation(x, y, n, xx)` Interpolation

`unumlib.interpolation2(x, y, n, xx)` Interpolation with linear uncertainty propagation

`unumlib.splineinterpolation(x, y, xx, boundaries)` Spline interpolation

`unumlib.splineinterpolation2(x, y, xx, boundaries)` Spline interpolation with linear uncertainty propagation

`unumlib.integrate(x, y, n)` Integrate

`unumlib.splineintegrate(x, y, boundaries)` Spline integrate

`unumlib.fft(v)` Fast Fourier transformation

`unumlib.ifft(v)` Inverse Fast Fourier transformation

`unumlib.dft(v)` Discrete Fourier transformation²

`unumlib.idft(v)` Inverse discrete Fourier transformation²

`unumlib.numerical_step(@f, x, dx)` Numerical step²

`unumlib.optimizer(@f, xStart, p)` Optimizer²

4.4 Special routines

`uspecial.linprop2mcprop(x)` Converts LinProp objects to MCProp objects where

- `x` are the input LinProp objects.

`uspecial.mcprop2linprop(ymc, xmc, x)` Converts MCProp objects back to LinProp objects where

- `ymc` are the output MCProp objects,
- `xmc` are the input MCProp objects and
- `x` are the input LinProp objects.

Example of usage:

```
xmc = uspecial.linprop2mcprop(x)
ymc = f(xmc)
y = uspecial.mcprop2linprop(ymc, xmc, x)
```

The expected values of `y` are the same as the expected values of `ymc`. The covariance of `y` is the same as the covariance of `ymc`.

²LinProp uncertainty objects only



5 Get properties of an uncertainty object

`get_value(y)` Returns the expected value.

`get_fcn_value(y)` Returns the function value.

`get_stdunc(y)` Computes the standard uncertainty.

`get_coverage_interval(y, p)` Computes the coverage interval.

`get_moment(y, n)` Computes the n-th central moment.

`get_correlation([y1 y2 ...])` Computes the correlation matrix.

`get_covariance([y1 y2 ...])` Computes the covariance matrix.

`get_idof(y)` Computes the inverse degrees of freedom.²

`1.0 / get_idof(y)` Computes the degrees of freedom.²

`get_jacobi(y)` Returns the sensitivities to the virtual base inputs (with value 0 and uncertainty 1).

`get_jacobi2(y, x)` Computes the sensitivities of y to the intermediate results x.

`get_unc_component(y, x)` Computes the uncertainty components of y with respect to x.

`unc_budget(y)` Shows the uncertainty budget.²

6 Storage functions

6.1 Store a computed uncertainty object

`ustorage.save_binary_file(y, filepath)` Binary serializes uncertainty object y to file.

`ustorage.save_xml_file(y, filepath)` XML serializes uncertainty object y to file.

`ustorage.to_xml_string(y)` XML serializes uncertainty object y to string.

6.2 Reload a stored uncertainty object

`ustorage.load_binary_file(filepath)` Reloads uncertainty object from binary file.

`ustorage.load_xml_file(filepath)` Reloads uncertainty object from XML file.

`ustorage.from_xml_string(s)` Reloads uncertainty object from XML string.

²`LinProp` uncertainty objects only



A Physical constants

`uconst` is equal to the newest physical constants `uconst2018`, see subsection A.3.

A.1 CODATA 2014

The following list contains the exact physical constants:

`uconst2014.deltavCs` Hyperfine transition frequency of Cs-133 in Hz

`uconst2014.c0` Speed of light in vacuum in m/s

`uconst2014.mu0` Vacuum magnetic permeability in Vs/Am

`uconst2014.ep0` Vacuum electric permittivity in As/Vm

`uconst2014.Kcd` Luminous efficacy in lm/W

`uconst2014.Mu` Molar mass constant in kg/mol

The following list contains the physical constants with uncertainties:

`uconst2014.G` Newtonian constant of gravitation³ in $\text{m}^3/(\text{kg}\cdot\text{s}^2)$

`uconst2014.alpha` Fine-structure constant³

`uconst2014.Ryd` Rydberg constant³ in 1/m

`uconst2014.mpsme` Proton-electron mass ratio³

`uconst2014.Na` Avogadro constant³ in 1/mol

`uconst2014.Kj` Josephson constant³ in Hz/V

`uconst2014.k` Boltzmann constant³ in J/K

`uconst2014.Rk` von Klitzing constant in Ohm

`uconst2014.e` Elementary charge in C

`uconst2014.h` Planck constant in Js

`uconst2014.me` Electron mass in kg

`uconst2014.mp` Proton mass in kg

`uconst2014.u` Atomic mass constant in kg

`uconst2014.F` Faraday constant in C/mol

`uconst2014.R` Molar gas constant in J/(mol*K)

`uconst2014.eV` Electron volt in J

³The correlation matrix of this physical constants is used in METAS UncLib to generate uncertainty objects which are correlated. The other physical constants are computed out of this set and the exact physical constants, e.g.: $Rk = \mu_0 \cdot c_0 / (2 \cdot \alpha)$ and $e = 2 / (Kj \cdot Rk)$.



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A.2 CODATA 2014 for conventional electrical units 90

The following list contains the exact physical constants:

[uconst2014_90.deltavCs](#) Hyperfine transition frequency of Cs-133 in Hz

[uconst2014_90.c0](#) Speed of light in vacuum in m/s

[uconst2014_90.mu0](#) Vacuum magnetic permeability in Vs/Am

[uconst2014_90.ep0](#) Vacuum electric permittivity in As/Vm

[uconst2014_90.Kcd](#) Luminous efficacy in lm/W

[uconst2014_90.Mu](#) Molar mass constant in kg/mol

[uconst2014_90.Kj](#) Conventional value of Josephson constant in Hz/V

[uconst2014_90.Rk](#) Conventional value of von Klitzing constant in Ohm

[uconst2014_90.e](#) Elementary charge in C

[uconst2014_90.h](#) Planck constant in Js

The following list contains the physical constants with uncertainties:

[uconst2014_90.Na](#) Avogadro constant in 1/mol

[uconst2014_90.F](#) Faraday constant in C/mol

[uconst2014_90.k](#) Boltzmann constant in J/K



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A.3 CODATA 2018

The following list contains the exact physical constants:

`uconst2018.deltavCs` Hyperfine transition frequency of Cs-133 in Hz

`uconst2018.c0` Speed of light in vacuum in m/s

`uconst2018.h` Planck constant in Js

`uconst2018.e` Elementary charge in C

`uconst2018.k` Boltzmann constant in J/K

`uconst2018.Na` Avogadro constant in 1/mol

`uconst2018.Kcd` Luminous efficacy in lm/W

`uconst2018.Kj` Josephson constant in Hz/V

`uconst2018.Rk` von Klitzing constant in Ohm

`uconst2018.F` Faraday constant in C/mol

`uconst2018.R` Molar gas constant in J/(mol*K)

`uconst2018.eV` Electron volt in J

The following list contains the physical constants with uncertainties:

`uconst2018.G` Newtonian constant of gravitation⁴ in $\text{m}^3/(\text{kg}\cdot\text{s}^2)$

`uconst2018.alpha` Fine-structure constant⁴

`uconst2018.mu0` Vacuum magnetic permeability in Vs/Am

`uconst2018.ep0` Vacuum electric permittivity in As/Vm

`uconst2018.Ryd` Rydberg constant⁴ in 1/m

`uconst2018.me` Electron mass in kg

`uconst2018.are` Electron relative atomic mass⁴

`uconst2018.arp` Proton relative atomic mass⁴

`uconst2018.mpsme` Proton-electron mass ratio

`uconst2018.mp` Proton mass in kg

`uconst2018.u` Atomic mass constant in kg

`uconst2018.Mu` Molar mass constant in kg/mol

⁴The correlation matrix of this physical constants is used in METAS UncLib to generate uncertainty objects which are correlated. The other physical constants are computed out of this set and the exact physical constants, e.g.: `mu0 = 2*h/(e*e*c0)*alpha` and `ep0 = 1.0/(c0*c0*mu0)`.