

PROFFAST User Manual

This manual is intended to provide concise instructions for the use of PROFFAST. PROFFAST is a software package for retrieving trace gas concentrations from interferograms measured with Bruker EM27/SUN solar absorption FTIR spectrometer by using Bruker OPUS software. The PROFFAST software package is developed at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and funded by the European Space Agency (ESA). Recently, PROFFASTpylot was created to run PROFFAST under Python.

The combination of a common instrumental standard for EM27/SUN spectrometers and a common data analysis procedure with PROFFAST provides a standard for greenhouse gas measurements within the COllaborative Carbon Column Observing Network (COCCON) [1] [2].

Contents

1. Naming, required software and legend	2
2. Literature overview	2
3. Installation of PROFFAST	3
4. Test PROFFAST using the example dataset	6
5. Prepare a retrieval with your own dataset	7
Interferograms	7
Map files	7
Pressure data	9
Pressure type file	9
Coordinates	10
Input File	10
Run Script	11
6. Running your own retrieval	12
7. Results	13
Appendix	14
A A more sophisticated retrieval setup	14
B Schematic representation of the PROFFAST algorithm	15
C Interpretation of Results: Combined inverted parameters	16

1. Naming, required software and legend

Naming

The software described in this manual is called PROFFAST. It includes the trace gas analysis packages PROFFASTpreprocess, PROFFASTpcxs, PROFFASTinvers, and the Python interface PROFFASTpylot. The first three parts together are often referred to as PROFFAST in following. This structure becomes clearer when looking at the Schematic representation of the PROFFAST algorithm on page 15.

Required external software

- `git` git bash is installed within the git package.
- A program to run `git`
- A program to run ftp (file transfer protocol)
- [Python](#) [5]
- A CLI to run python

Software used in this manual

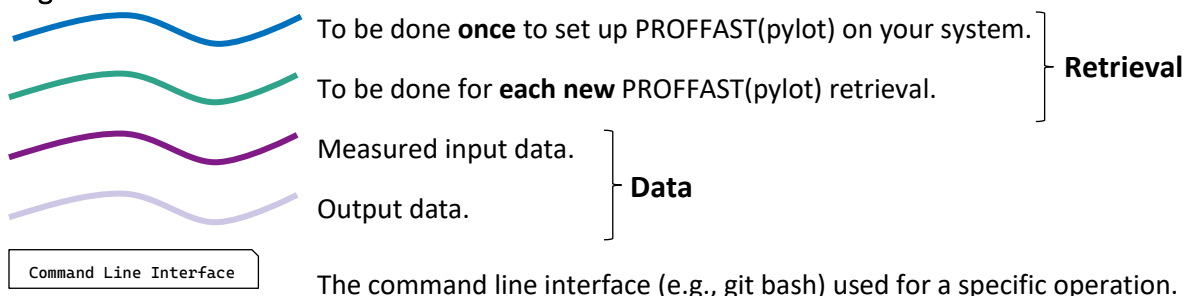
[git](#) [3] for Windows
`git bash command line interface (CLI)`
[filezilla](#) [4]
 Python 3.11
 Windows PowerShell

These software packages are all open-source and available for all common operating systems.

*[Note: Git is used to get the PROFFASTpylot package onto your system. A method without git will also be introduced, but git is **highly recommended** as it makes updating much easier.]*

The examples in this manual were carried out under Windows 10 Enterprise. Shells and corresponding commands in other operating systems may differ. Information is provided at the relevant point.

Legend



Shell commands, `file names` and `paths` are written in this font.

2. Literature overview

There are already documentations for both, PROFFAST and PROFFASTpylot, that build the fundament for this manual. These can be found here:

- PROFFAST: You will find some documentation in `prf/docs` when you have installed PROFFAST (see in Installation of PROFFAST on page 3).
- [PROFFASTpylot Documentation](#) [6] (website), [GitLab PROFFASTpylot](#) [7] (GitLab repository)
- Material from the COCCON telephone conferences, including Q&A and presentations of measurement campaigns, can be found here: [COCCON telcos](#) [8].

3. Installation of PROFFAST

In this section, the download and installation of the software packages are demonstrated. The presented information can be found in more detail in [PROFFASTpylot documentation](#) [6] → Installation. [As mentioned above, one can get the PROFFASTpylot package in two ways: With git (recommended) or by downloading a zip-archive. Both are explained in the following.]

Download PROFFASTpylot with git

What to do

Navigate:

cd *Path where you want to store PROFFAST*

Clone git repository:

git clone
<https://gitlab.eudat.eu/coccon-kit/proffastpylot.git>

What should happen

```
user@EM27/SUN/~> cd proffast_path/
user@EM27/SUN/proffast_path>
(In this manual, git bash is used to run git from a command line under Windows.)

user@EM27/SUN/proffast_path> git clone https://gitlab.eudat.eu/coccon-kit/proffastpylot.git
Cloning into 'proffastpylot'...
remote: Enumerating objects: 2566, done.
remote: Counting objects: 100% (68/68), done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (64/64), done.
remote: Total 2566 (delta 28), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 2498
Receiving objects: 100% (2566/2566), 1.48 MiB | 9.97 MiB/s, done.
Resolving deltas: 100% (1642/1642), done.
user@EM27/SUN/proffast_path>
```

Alternative: Download zip-file from <https://gitlab.eudat.eu/coccon-kit/proffastpylot/-/archive/master/proffastpylot-master.zip> and **unpack it**. You will find a directory `proffastpylot-master` with all necessary files. Change the name to `proffastpylot`.

New directory `proffastpylot` created!

(The `.gitignore` file only shows up with git.)

proffastpylot

Name

- docs
- example
- prfpilot
- .gitignore
- LICENSE
- README
- setup

Update PROFFASTpylot with git

What to do

Navigate to the `proffastpylot` folder:

cd `proffastpylot`

Pull the newest version from the remote repository:

git pull

What should happen

```
user@EM27/SUN/proffast_path> cd proffastpylot/
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot>
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> git pull
Already up to date.
(This feedback is different, if a new version is available.)
```

Alternative: Repeat the download of the zip-file as shown above.

Add PROFFAST

What to do

Download the newest version of PROFFAST from the KIT website:

<https://www.imk-asf.kit.edu/english/3225.php>

Unzip the zip-file and **move** the **prf** folder to your **proffastpylot** folder.

Additionally for **Linux users**: Run the installation script to create the executables:

```
bash install_proffast_linux.sh
```

New folder prf added!

(The `.gitignore` file only shows up with git.)

> proffastpylot

Name

- docs
- example
- prf**
- prfpilot
- .gitignore
- LICENSE
- README
- setup

Create a virtual python environment (venv)

What to do

Navigate to **proffastpylot** directory and **create the virtual python environment**:

```
python -m venv prf_venv
```

What should happen

```
user@EM27/SUN/proffast_path> cd .\proffastpylot\
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> python -m venv prf_venv
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot>
```

Windows PowerShell

Using a [virtual environment](#) [17] avoids version conflicts within the base python installation on your system.

New folder prf_venv created!

(The `.gitignore` file only shows up with git.)

> proffastpylot

Name

- docs
- example
- prf
- prf_venv**
- prfpilot
- .gitignore
- LICENSE
- README
- setup

Activate the virtual environment

What to do

In the `proffastpylot` directory, run:

`.\prf_venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1`
(Windows PowerShell*)

`.\prf_venv\Scripts\activate`
(Windows CMD)

`source prf_venv/bin/activate`
(Linux)

[To deactivate: deactivate]

What should happen

```
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> .\prf_venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1
(prf_venv) user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot>
```

Windows PowerShell*

Virtual environment activated!

```
(prf_venv) user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> deactivate
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot>
```

**To run scripts in the PowerShell, you may need to set the execution policy to at least "RemoteSigned". Run: Set-Execution Policy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser. See [15] for more information.*

Install the PROFFASTpylot repository

What to do

In the **activated virtual environment**, run:

`pip install --editable .`

Important!

What should happen

```
(prf_venv) user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> pip install --editable .
... installing process will take around one minute ...
Successfully installed PROFFASTpylot-1.2 PyYAML-6.0.1 certifi-2023.
7.22 cffi-1.16.0 charset-normalizer-3.3.0 colorama-0.4.6 fortranfor
mat-2.0.0 h3-3.7.6 idna-3.4 numpy-1.26.0 pandas-2.1.1 pycparser-2.2
1 python-dateutil-2.8.2 pytz-2023.3.post1 requests-2.31.0 six-1.16.
0 timezonedfinder-6.2.0 tqdm-4.66.1 tzdata-2023.3 urllib3-2.0.6 whee
l-0.41.2
```

Windows PowerShell

This step will also install all required python packages.

Final folder structure

```
proffastpylot
├── docs
├── example
│   ├── input_sodankyla_example.yml
│   ├── log_type_pressure.yml
│   └── run.py
├── ...
├── prf
│   ├── docs
│   ├── inp_fast
│   ├── inp_fwd
│   ├── preprocess
│   ├── source
│   ├── out_fast
│   └── wrk_fast
├── ...
├── prf_venv
├── prfpylot
├── ...
└── setup.py
```

4. Test PROFFAST using the example dataset

After successfully setting up the software environment, an `example` folder is included in the `proffastpylot` directory. In this section, it is shown how an example dataset can be downloaded and then processed to generate a first test result that is of interest for most users.

Download and run the example dataset

What to do

Navigate to the `proffastpylot` directory. **Activate the virtual environment** as shown on page 5. Navigate to the `example` folder.

Finally, run the `run.py` script with **python**.

`python run.py`

Enter **“yes”** to download the example dataset.

What should happen

```
user@EM27/SUN/proffast_path> cd .\proffastpylot\
user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> .\prf_venv\Scripts\Activate.ps1
(prf_venv) user@EM27/SUN/proffastpylot> cd .\example\
(prf_venv) user@EM27/SUN/example> python .\run.py
Example data where not found on disk.
Do you like to download them? This will download 104 MB of data
to your disk.
Enter 'yes' to download the data or 'no' to abort:
yes
98%|
... The retrieval will take a few minutes to run ...
2023-10-12 10:45:06,013, INFO: Removing temporary files ...
2023-10-12 10:45:06,085, INFO: Done.
(prf_venv) user@EM27/SUN/example>
```

Windows PowerShell

Depending on the operating system, the retrieved gas concentrations can differ slightly. Please follow the instructions given in [19] → “6. Test the installation by running an example dataset”. The `Reference_Output_Example_Sodankyla.csv` is only available in joss branch.

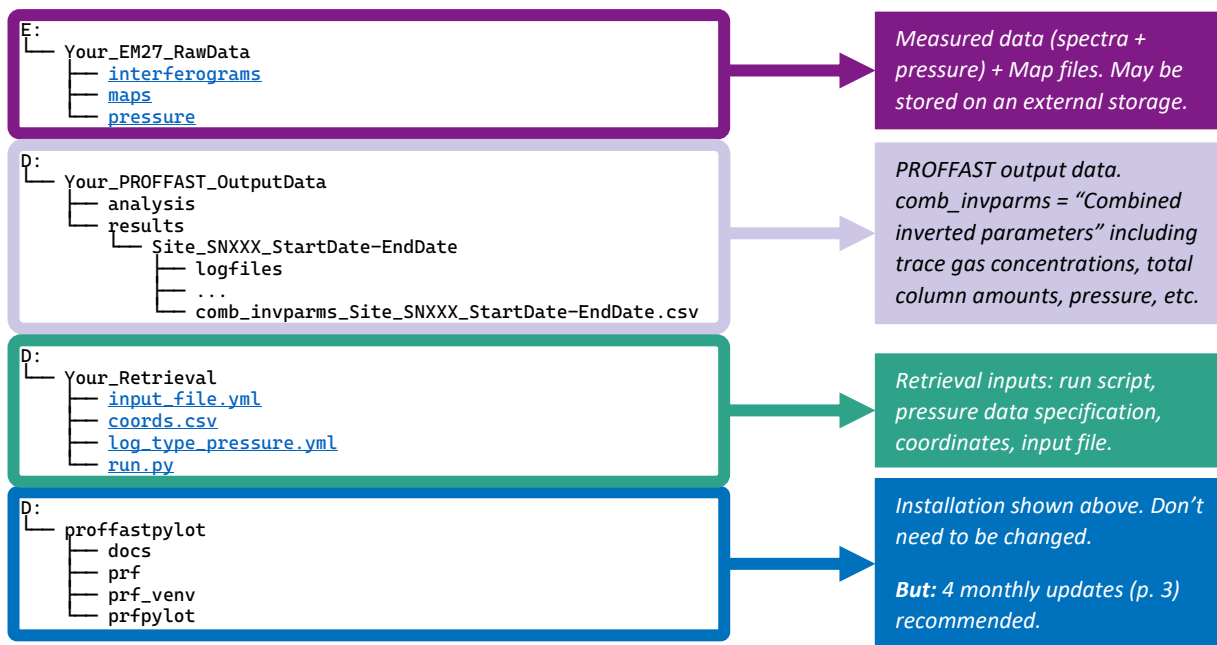
Example folder structure

```
proffastpylot
├── example
│   ├── analysis
│   │   ├── Sodankyla_SN039
│   │   │   ├── 170608
│   │   │   │   ├── cal
│   │   │   │   ├── pT
│   │   │   │   └── VMR_dim
│   │   │   └── 170609
│   │   │       └── ...
│   ├── input_data
│   │   ├── interferograms_sodankyla
│   │   ├── map_sodankyla
│   │   ├── pressure_sodankyla
│   │   └── coords.csv
│   ├── results
│   │   ├── Sodankyla_SN039_170608-170609
│   │   │   ├── input_files
│   │   │   │   ├── ...
│   │   │   │   └── logfiles
│   │   │   ├── ...
│   │   │   ├── comb_invparms_Sodankyla_SN039_170608-170609.csv
│   │   │   ├── input_sodankyla_example
│   │   │   │   ├── ...
│   │   │   │   ├── input_sodankyla_example.yml
│   │   │   │   ├── log_type_pressure.yml
│   │   │   └── run.py
```

For most users, the file containing the “combined inverted parameters” will be of main interest. **The meaning of the contained quantities is described in Appendix C on page 16.**

5. Prepare a retrieval with your own dataset

The example dataset used in the section above provides a first impression of the folder structure of a PROFFAST retrieval. In this section, we learn step by step, how to adapt another dataset to the required input data structure. The recommended folder structure is as follows ([PROFFASTpylot documentation](#) [6] → Folder Structure).



For a more complex retrieval with many measurement days and sites, see Appendix A on page 14.

Interferograms

These are recorded by an EM27/SUN in combination with the OPUS software. The term "SNXXX" showing up in the folder structure refers to the serial number of the used EM27/SUN instrument. "YYY" in the file name is a number counting the sequential measurements.

Generic folder structure	Exemplary file list
<pre> └─ Your_EM27_RawData └─ interferograms └─ SNXXX └─ Date1 └─ Date1SN.YYY (more interferograms) (more days) (more instruments) </pre>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 170608SN.350 170608SN.400 170608SN.450 170608SN.500 170608SN.550 170608SN.600

Map files

The map files contain modeled atmospheric information at the measurement site at the measurement time, e.g., *a-priori* VMR (volume mixing ratio) profiles. They are automatically generated on a Caltech server.

[The measured absorption spectra are fitted to those of the *a-priori* profiles. These profiles are generated model-based [9]. More information can be found in literature, e.g., in [1]. The map files can be the same for different measurement sites, if the distance between them is less than ≈ 20 km.]

Generic folder structure	Exemplary file list
<pre> └─ Your_EM27_RawData └─ maps └─ site-abbrev_latN_longE_DateTime.map (more map files) </pre>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> so_67N_027E_2017060800Z so_67N_027E_2017060803Z so_67N_027E_2017060806Z so_67N_027E_2017060809Z so_67N_027E_2017060812Z so_67N_027E_2017060815Z

Request and download the map files

What to do

What should happen

You need FTP¹ access to the Caltech server. Map files are generated there. **If you don't already have access, follow the instructions on the TCCON website [16].**

You will get access with the **username "anonymous"** and your **email address as password**.

Not necessarily the same email address!

Create text file:

`input_file_2020*.txt`,

containing information on your measurements. (* = empty or more characters. The only variable part is *.)

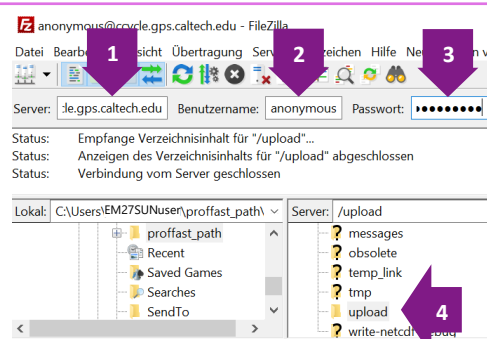
This exact form is required, no extra spaces or characters allowed!

SO
20170608
20170610
67.366
26.630
user@em27SUN.edu

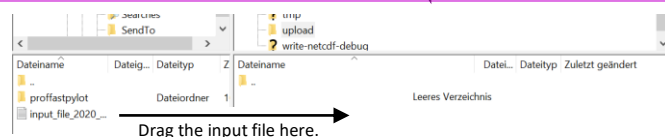
Personal site abbreviation
Start date YYYYMMDD
End date + 1 Day
Latitude
Longitude
Email to receive map files²

Connect via FTP¹ to the Caltech server `ccycle.gps.caltech.edu`
(1). Enter username "anonymous"
(2) and your password (3). Press **Enter**.

Navigate to the `upload` directory (4).



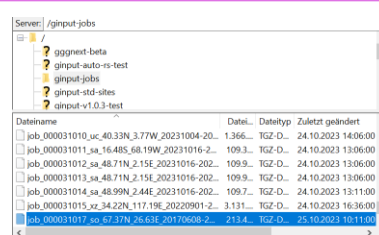
Drag the input file from your local folder to the remote `upload` directory.



(The dragged file will immediately disappear, and a successful transfer message will appear.)

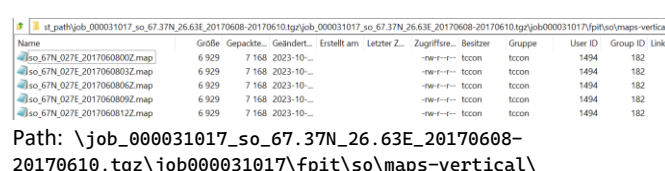
The generation of the map files takes some hours. **Navigate** to the `ginput-jobs` folder and check for `job_XXXXX_site_lon_lat_date.tgz` corresponding to your input file.

[or follow the instruction in the email received by "tcon Account".]²



Download the generated archive.

Open the archive (e.g., with 7-Zip) and follow the path as shown to the right.



¹FTP = File Transfer Protocol. Here, the open source [FileZilla](#) client [4] is used to connect via FTP. It is available for all common operating systems. There are other ways to connect to the FTP server, such as a command line interface.

²Apparently receiving the tcon email does not work for some email addresses or servers. Downloading map files via FileZilla still works without the email.

More detailed information on the [Caltech website](#) [18].

Pressure data

The pressure dataset contains the surface pressure at the EM27/SUN location at the time of measurement. It is measured by an external sensor at the measurement site.

[Surface pressure is critical to the retrieval process as it is determined by the air mass in the column above the instrument. The accuracy of the surface pressure must be within 0.2 mbar. Therefore, the pressure sensor must be calibrated to an absolute reference pressure. Finally, any difference in height between the EM27/SUN and the pressure sensor must be taken into account, as 0.2 mbar corresponds to a height difference of approximately 2 m. Information about pressure measurement strategies can be found in published material describing various COCCON field campaigns, e.g. [10].]

Generic folder structure	Exemplary file list (extract from example)		
<div><div>└ Your_EM27_RawData</div><div><div>└ pressure</div><div>(pressure files as specified in pressure type file)</div></div></div>	UTCdate	UTCtime	BaroTHB40
	"08.06.2017"	"00:10:00"	+9.9892e+02
	"08.06.2017"	"00:20:00"	+9.9902e+02
	"08.06.2017"	"00:30:00"	+9.9902e+02
	"08.06.2017"	"00:40:00"	+9.9912e+02
	"08.06.2017"	"00:50:00"	+9.9912e+02

Pressure type file

The pressure type file provides PROFFAST the information about the **file format, time format and other specifications** of the pressure dataset you use for your retrieval.

[The pressure data is often measured by individual sensors, depending on the availability or practicability at the measurement location. Consequently, the data usually has different file formats, time formats, units and so on. Therefore, the pressure data needs to be specified in more detail to be treated by PROFFAST. For this purpose, a file "log_type_pressure.yml" must be adapted to the dataset used.]

Set up the pressure type file

What to do

Copy the `log_type_pressure.yml` from the `example` directory into your own retrieval directory.

Open the `log_type_pressure.yml` file with a text editor.

Follow the instructions given in the file and **adjust the example file to your own pressure dataset**.

Most important parameters are:

- "dataframe_parameters": "key" ↔ name of column, "fmt" ↔ format of quantity in column, "csv_kwargs: sep" ↔ separator between columns in pressure data file (\t = tab)
- "time_key" can be anything, must not be UTC time.
- "UTC offset of data"

For more information, see the [PROFFASTpylot documentation](#) [6] → Pressure Input.

Coordinates

The coordinates of the measurement locations must be given either in the input file or in an external file. The latter is recommended, especially when measuring at more than one location. They can be measured e.g., by a GPS sensor and manually written to a .csv file.

[The recommended accuracy is 0.001° , which is equivalent to 100 m.]

Generic folder structure	File structure with exemplary data																																				
<div><div>└─ Your_Retrieval</div><div>└─ coords.csv</div></div>	<table><tr><th></th><th>A</th><th>B</th><th>C</th><th>D</th><th>E</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Site,</td><td>Latitude,</td><td>Longitude,</td><td>Altitude_kmasl,</td><td>Starttime</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Sodankyla,</td><td>67.366,</td><td>26.630,</td><td>0.181,</td><td>2014-01-01</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Thessaloniki,</td><td>40.634,</td><td>22.956,</td><td>0.067,</td><td>2021-10-04</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Karlsruhe,</td><td>49.103,</td><td>8.436,</td><td>0.130,</td><td>2014-01-01</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>		A	B	C	D	E	1	Site,	Latitude,	Longitude,	Altitude_kmasl,	Starttime	2	Sodankyla,	67.366,	26.630,	0.181,	2014-01-01	3	Thessaloniki,	40.634,	22.956,	0.067,	2021-10-04	4	Karlsruhe,	49.103,	8.436,	0.130,	2014-01-01	5					
	A	B	C	D	E																																
1	Site,	Latitude,	Longitude,	Altitude_kmasl,	Starttime																																
2	Sodankyla,	67.366,	26.630,	0.181,	2014-01-01																																
3	Thessaloniki,	40.634,	22.956,	0.067,	2021-10-04																																
4	Karlsruhe,	49.103,	8.436,	0.130,	2014-01-01																																
5																																					

Input File

The input file here refers to the PROFFASTpylot input file, not to be confused with the one used to generate the map files. This file specifies the paths for all input and output files. Other specifications can be made in this file as well. Most of the entries can be left as defaults for the standard measurement.

Set up the input file

What to do

Copy the example `input_sodankyla_example.yml` into your own retrieval directory and **rename** it. `D:/Your_Retrieval` represents an exemplary general retrieval directory.

Open the new input file with a text editor.

Adjust the entries of the file names and paths according to your own folder structure. In the example below, the left column shows an exemplary *input folder structure* whereas the right column the corresponding entries in the *input file*.

```

E:
└─ Your_EM27_RawData
   └─ interferograms
   └─ maps
   └─ pressure

D:
└─ Your_PROFFAST_OutputData
   └─ analysis
   └─ results
      └─ Site_SNXXX_StartDate-EndDate
         └─ logfiles
         └─ ...
         └─ comb_invparms_Site_SNXXX_StartDate-EndDate.csv

D:
└─ Your_Retrieval
   └─ input_file.yml
   └─ coords.csv
   └─ log_type_pressure.yml
   └─ run.py

D:
└─ proffastpylot
   └─ docs
   └─ prf
   └─ prf_venv
   └─ prfpylot
    
```

`coord_file: coords.csv1`

`interferogram_path: E:/Your_EM27_RawData/interferograms2`

`map_path: E:/Your_EM27_RawData/maps`

`pressure_path: E:/Your_EM27_RawData/pressure`

`pressure_type_file: log_type_pressure.yml`

`analysis_path: D:/Your_PROFFAST_OutputData/analysis`

`result_path: D:/Your_PROFFAST_OutputData/results`

¹ No path specified here, because coords.csv is in same folder as run.py, as for pressure type file.

² Be aware that forward slashes (/) are used for paths throughout this manual. For some APIs (Application Programming Interfaces), backslashes (\) could be necessary.

For more information, see the [PROFFASTpylot documentation](#) [6] → Folder Structure.

Run Script

The final step is to adjust the `run.py` script that carries out the PROFFAST retrieval.

Set up the run script

What to do

Copy the `run.py` from the example into your own retrieval directory and **rename** it.

Open your new run script with a text editor.

Remove the code that is only needed for the example retrieval: The comments at the top of the script and the download of the example dataset.

Enter the name of your input file.

Set the desired **number of parallel processes**¹.

What should happen

You should now have created a folder structure as shown on page 7.

Edited `run.py` script:

~~"""Ready-to-use example to demonstrate the usage of PROFFASTpylot.~~

~~To execute this file from .../proffastpylot/example as your working directory.~~

~~The Sodankyla example data set will be downloaded if not present.
All steps of the retrieval with PROFFAST will be executed by Pylot.run() automatically.
"""~~

~~from prfpilot.download_example import ExampleDownloadHandler
from prfpilot.pylot import Pylot~~

~~# This statement needs to be executed in all run scripts to prevent problems
with the multiprocessing on windows
if __name__ == "__main__":~~

~~# Check if example input data is already available on disk,
if not download it.
This is not needed for your personal PROFFASTpylot run~~

~~ExampleDownloadHandler().check_and_download_example_data()~~

~~# The following part can be adapted to your own retrieval~~

~~input_file = "input_sodankyla_example.yml"~~

~~input_file = "input_file.yml"~~

~~MyPylot = Pylot(input_file, logginglevel="info")~~

~~MyPylot.run(n_processes=2)~~

¹Process the data of different measurement days parallel on different processor cores. The recommended maximum `n_processes` is the number of processor cores of your system.

For information on running PROFFAST partially (e.g. only preprocessing), read in the [PROFFASTpylot documentation](#) [6] → Usage.

6. Running your own retrieval

Now that you have prepared the dataset and input files, three more steps must be carried out to complete the retrieval:

Update [PROFFASTpylot](#) (p. 3) and make sure you have the newest version of [PROFFAST](#) (p.4).

Activate [the virtual environment](#) (p. 5).

Run [the run script](#) (p. 11).

Wait for the results. Depending on the dataset and the processing power of your system, this will take at least several minutes. For datasets with many measurement days and minutely scans, it might take several hours. The results can be found in the `results` folder.

*[One important scientific reason for updates are the ILS (instrumental line shape) parameters. The ILS parameters are individually determined for each EM27/SUN because every instrument differs slightly in interferometric alignment, optical aberrations etc. (read in [11]). A list with the current ILS parameters is provided in the `prfpylot` directory. **These should be used for a COCCON compliant retrieval.** Information on the implementation of ILS parameters in PROFFAST can also be found in the [PROFFASTpylot documentation](#) [6] → ILS Parameters.]*

7. Results

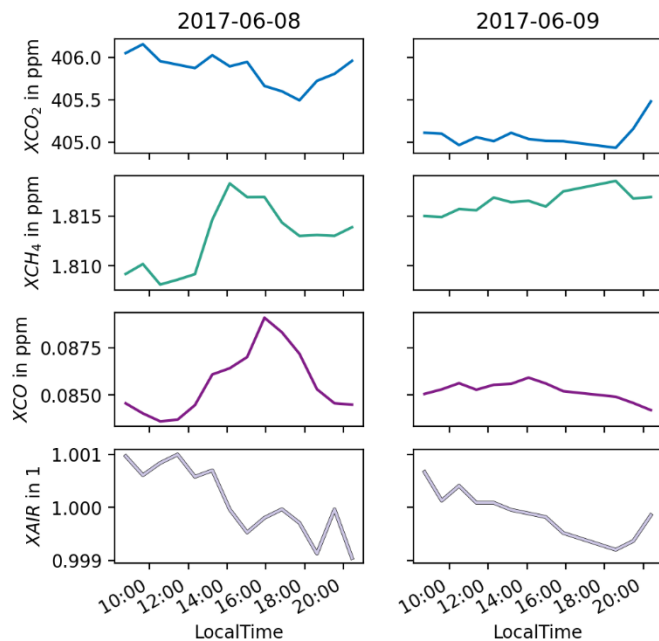
A graphical representation of the results is a convenient way for their interpretation.

For the exemplary dataset, the **column-averaged dry-air mole fractions X_{gas}** for the most important greenhouse gases are shown on the right side. The use of dry-air mole fractions has the advantage of eliminating concentration variations caused by variable ground pressure and the highly variable mixing ratio of water vapor (0 - 4%). Compared to total column amounts, using X_{gas} also eliminates systematic errors induced by surface pressure. **Careful calibration** [12] is required to obtain absolute trace gas concentrations (for more information, see, e.g., in [11]).

The quantity **$XAIR$** can serve as a measure of system stability with an ideal value of 1.

If data derived from observations recorded at low to moderate airmass (Solar Zenith

Angle (SZA) < 70°) and during stable weather conditions show deviations in $XAIR$ of more than 1% from unity, this might indicate problems with the FTIR measurements or with the pressure recording and would require further investigation. More information can be found in [1] or other contributions within the COCCON framework.



Appendix

A A more sophisticated retrieval setup

The folder structure presented in [Prepare a retrieval with your own dataset?](#) (p. 7) needs to be extended if you have many measurement days and different measurement sites. In this case, the following adjustments provide an extended folder structure.

Set up an extended folder structure

What to do

Match the paths specified in the *input files* against the *input data structure and the desired output structure*. Here, a folder structure for an exemplary dataset with 2 instruments measuring at 3 measurement sites is shown.



Exemplary parameters for `input_file_Site1.yml`:

```

coord_file: coords.csv

```

```

interferogram_path: E:/Your_EM27_RawData/interferograms/SN039
map_path: E:/Your_EM27_RawData/maps
pressure_path: E:/Your_EM27_RawData/pressure/Site1

pressure_type_file: pressure_type_files/log_type_pressure_Site1.yml

analysis_path: D:/Your_PROFFAST_OutputData/analysis
result_path: D:/Your_PROFFAST_OutputData/results

```

Adjust the `run.py` script to loop over all input files or use different run scripts for the different input files. An exemplary code could be:

```

input_file_numbers = range(1,4)
for i in input_file_numbers:
    if __name__ == "__main__":

        input_file = (
            "input_files/input_file_Site" + str(i) + ".yml")
        MyPyplot = Pylot(input_file, logginglevel="info")
        MyPyplot.run(n_processes=2)

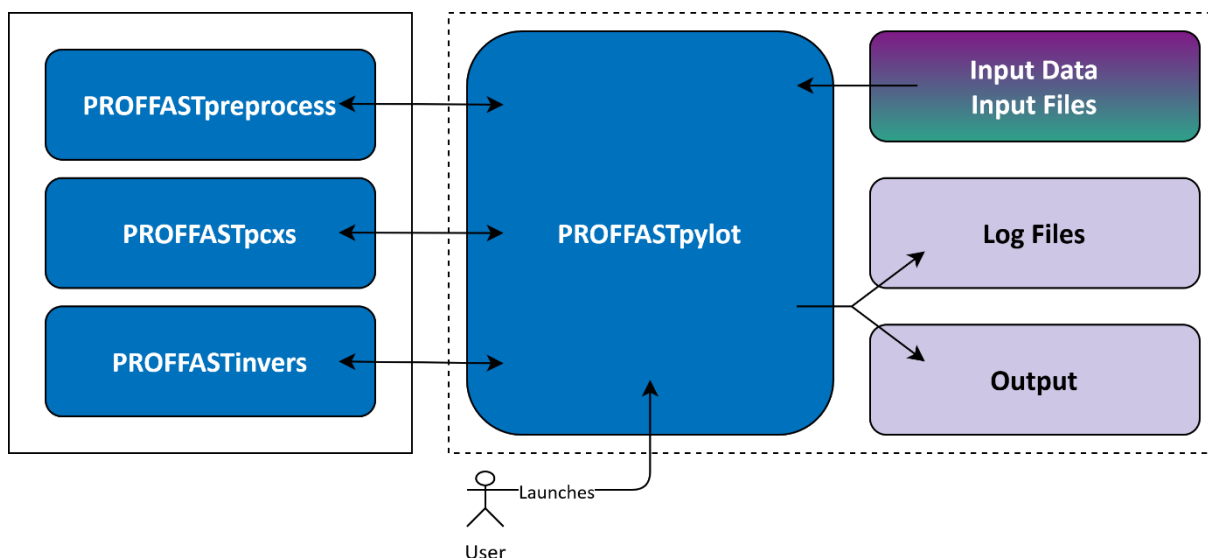
```

**The map files can be the same for different measurement sites, if the distance between them is less than approximately 20 km.*

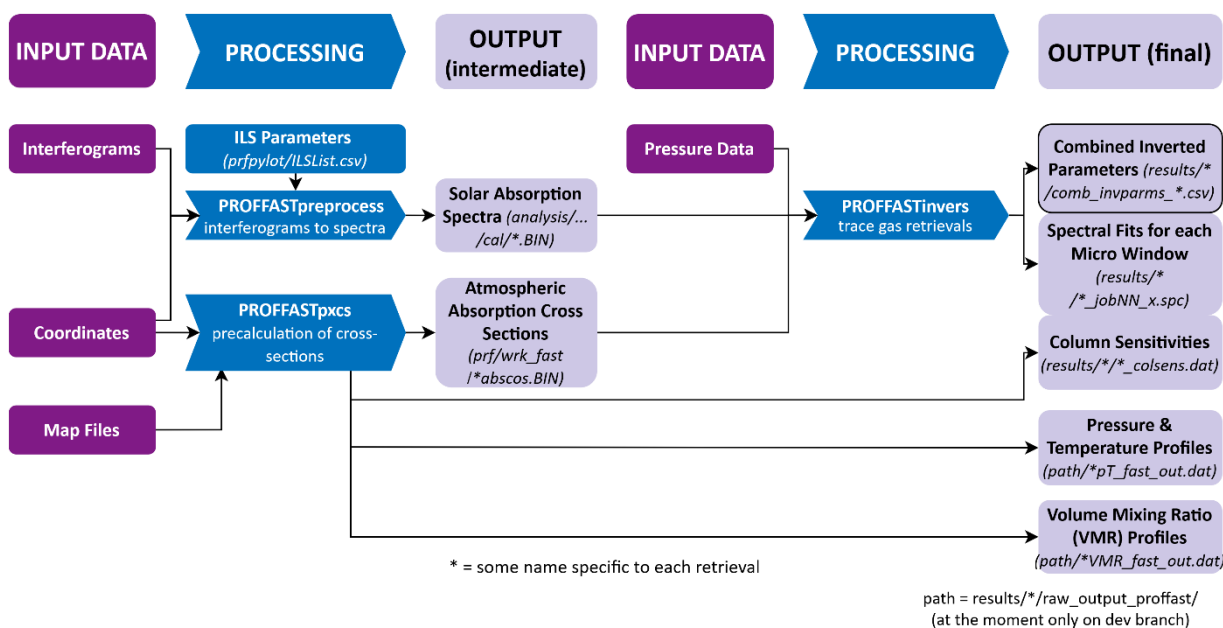
B Schematic representation of the PROFFAST algorithm

The schematic representations in the following shall mainly serve for the general understanding of the workflow of this software.

The first figure shows the schematic interaction between PROFFASTpylot, the other PROFFAST components and the retrieval data. For a basic trace gas retrieval with PROFFAST, the user only provides all needed input data and launches PROFFASTpylot. The latter reads the input data, passes it on to the corresponding processing scripts and finally writes the results to the desired folders.



The second figure shows a schematic of the trace gas analysis within PROFFAST. For simplicity, PROFFASTpylot is not included in this figure. Also, only the input parameters presented here in this manual are shown. However, the output data in this figure contains information more than the usual “combined inverted parameters” and may be of interest to advanced users.



More information on [Column sensitivities](#) [13].

C Interpretation of Results: Combined inverted parameters

In this section, the quantities contained in the `results/comb_invparms*.csv` file are specified. The main quantities related to trace gas concentrations are:

- Total column amount (TC) of molecules in $\frac{\text{molec.}}{\text{m}^2}$: $TC_{\text{gas}} = \int_{z_0}^{\infty} dz \rho_N$ with the ground height z_0 and the number density of the trace gas ρ_N (in $\frac{\text{molec.}}{\text{m}^3}$);
- Column-averaged dry-air mole fraction (DMF) in ppm: $X_{\text{gas}} = \frac{TC_{\text{gas}}}{TC_{\text{DryAir}}}$.

UTC	LocalTime	spectrum	JulianDate	UTtimeh	gndP	gndT	latdeg
Coordinated Universal Time	Time at measurement site	Spectrum measured in specific time interval	Count of days [14]	Decimal UTC hours	Surface pressure in millibars	Surface temperature in Kelvin	Latitude in degrees
londeg	altim	appSZA	azimuth	XH2O	XAIR	XCO2	XCH4
Longitude in degrees	Altitude in meters	Solar zenith angle in degrees	Solar azimuth angle (south=0°) in degrees	DMF of water vapor in ppm	DMF of dry air in 1 (ideally XAIR = 1)	DMF of CO ₂ in ppm	DMF of CH ₄ in ppm
XCO	XCH4_S5P	H2O	O2	CO2	CH4	CO	CH4_S5P
DMF of CO in ppm	DMF of CH ₄ calculated like Sentinel-5P ¹ in ppm	TC of H ₂ O in molecules/m ²	TC of O ₂ in molecules/m ²	TC of CO ₂ in molecules/m ²	TC of CH ₄ in molecules/m ²	TC of CO in molecules/m ²	TC of CH ₄ calculated like Sentinel-5P ¹ in molecules/m ²

¹CH₄ abundance that is calculated in the same spectral window (channel 2) as CO. This window is also used by the Sentinel-5P satellite.

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