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# **asammdf Documentation**

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*asammdf* is a fast parser/editor for ASAM (Association for Standardisation of Automation and Measuring Systems) MDF (Measurement Data Format) files.

*asammdf* supports both MDF version 3 and 4 formats.

*asammdf* works on Python 2.7, and Python  $\geq 3.4$



# CHAPTER 1

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## Project goals

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The main goals for this library are:

- to be faster than the other Python based mdf libraries
- to have clean and easy to understand code base





## CHAPTER 2

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### Features

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- create new mdf files from scratch
- append new channels
- read unsorted MDF v3 and v4 files
- filter a subset of channels from original mdf file
- cut measurement to specified time interval
- convert to different mdf version
- export to Excel, HDF5, Matlab and CSV
- merge multiple files sharing the same internal structure
- read and save mdf version 4.10 files containing zipped data blocks
- split large data blocks (configurable size) for mdf version 4
- disk space savings by compacting 1-dimensional integer channels (configurable)
- full support (read, append, save) for the following map types (multidimensional array channels):
  - mdf version 3 channels with CDBLOCK
  - mdf version 4 structure channel composition
  - mdf version 4 channel arrays with CNTemplate storage and one of the array types:
    - \* 0 - array
    - \* 1 - scaling axis
    - \* 2 - look-up
- add and extract attachments for mdf version 4
- files are loaded in RAM for fast operations
- handle large files (exceeding the available RAM) using *load\_measured\_data = False* argument

- extract channel data, master channel and extra channel information as *Signal* objects for unified operations with v3 and v4 files
- time domain operation using the *Signal* class
  - Pandas data frames are good if all the channels have the same time based
  - usually a measurement will have channels from different sources at different rates
  - the *Signal* class facilitates operations with such channels

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### Major features not implemented (yet)

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- for version 3
  - functionality related to sample reduction block (but the class is defined)
- for version 4
  - handling of bus logging measurements
  - handling of unfinished measurements (mdf 4)
  - full support for remaining mdf 4 channel arrays types
  - xml schema for TXBLOCK and MDBLOCK
  - partial conversions
  - event blocks



asammdf uses the following libraries

- numpy : the heart that makes all tick
- numexpr : for algebraic and rational channel conversions
- matplotlib : for Signal plotting
- wheel : for installation in virtual environments

optional dependencies needed for exports

- pandas : for DataFrame export
- h5py : for HDF5 export
- xlswriter : for Excel export
- scipy : for Matlab .mat export



## CHAPTER 5

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### Installation

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*asammdf* is available on

- github: <https://github.com/danielhrisca/asammdf/>
- PyPI: <https://pypi.org/project/asammdf/>

```
pip install asammdf
```





## 6.1 Package level

`asammdf.configure` (*integer\_compacting=None, split\_data\_blocks=None, split\_threshold=None*)  
configure asammdf parameters

**Parameters** `integer_compacting` : bool

enable/disable compacting of integer channels on append. This has the potential to greatly reduce file size, but append speed is slower and further loading of the resulting file will also be slower.

`split_data_blocks` : bool

enable/disable splitting of large data blocks using data lists for mdf version 4

`split_threshold` : int

size of splitted data blocks, default 2MB; if the initial size is smaller then no data list is used

Enabling compacting of integer channels on append the file size of the resulting file can decrease up to a factor of ~0.5. Splitting the data blocks is usefull for large blocks. The recommended maximum threshold by ASAM is 4MB. *asammdf* uses a default of 2MB

## 6.2 MDF

This class acts as a proxy for the MDF3 and MDF4 classes. All attribute access is delegated to the underlying *\_file* attribute (MDF3 or MDF4 object). See MDF3 and MDF4 for available extra methods.

An empty MDF file is created if the *name* argument is not provided. If the *name* argument is provided then the file must exist in the filesystem, otherwise an exception is raised.

Best practice is to use the MDF as a context manager. This way all resources are released correctly in case of exceptions.

```
with MDF(r'test.mdf') as mdf_file:
    # do something
```

**class** `asammdf.mdf.MDF` (*name=None, load\_measured\_data=True, version='4.10'*)  
 Unified access to MDF v3 and v4 files.

**Parameters** **name** : string

mdf file name, if provided it must be a real file name

**load\_measured\_data** : bool

load data option; default *True*

- if *True* the data group binary data block will be loaded in RAM
- if *False* the channel data is read from disk on request

**version** : string

mdf file version ('3.00', '3.10', '3.20', '3.30', '4.00', '4.10', '4.11'); default '4.10'

## Methods

<code>convert</code>	
<code>cut</code>	
<code>export</code>	
<code>filter</code>	
<code>iter_to_pandas</code>	
<code>merge</code>	
<code>select</code>	This module supports asynchronous I/O on multiple file descriptors.

**convert** (*to, load\_measured\_data=True*)  
 convert MDF to other versions

**Parameters** **to** : str

new mdf version from ('3.00', '3.10', '3.20', '3.30', '4.00', '4.10', '4.11')

**load\_measured\_data** : bool

load data option; default *True*

- if *True* the data group binary data block will be loaded in RAM
- if *False* the channel data is stored to a temporary file and read from disk on request

**Returns** **out** : MDF

new MDF object

**cut** (*start=None, stop=None, whence=0*)  
 convert MDF to other versions

**Parameters** **start** : float

start time, default *None*. If *None* then the start of measurement is used

**stop** : float

stop time, default . If *None* then the end of measurement is used

**whence** : int

how to search for the start and stop values

- 0 : absolute
- 1 : relative to first timestamp

**Returns out** : MDF

new MDF object

**export** (*fmt, filename=None*)

export MDF to other formats. The *MDF* file name is used is available, else the *filename* argument must be provided.

**Parameters fmt** : string

can be one of the following:

- *csv* : CSV export that uses the “;” delimiter. This option will generate a new csv file for each data group (<MDF-NAME>\_DataGroup\_<cntr>.csv)
- *hdf5* : HDF5 file output; each *MDF* data group is mapped to a *HDF5* group with the name ‘DataGroup\_<cntr>’ (where <cntr> is the index)
- *excel* : Excel file output (very slow). This option will generate a new excel file for each data group (<MDF-NAME>\_DataGroup\_<cntr>.xlsx)
- *mat* : Matlab .mat version 5 export, for Matlab >= 7.6. In the mat file the channels will be renamed to ‘DataGroup\_<cntr>\_<channel name>’. The channel group master will be renamed to ‘DataGroup\_<cntr>\_<channel name>\_master’ ( <cntr> is the data group index starting from 0)

**filename** : string

export file name

**filter** (*channels*)

return new *MDF* object that contains only the channels listed in *channels* argument

**Parameters channels** : list

list of channel names to be filtered

**Returns mdf** : MDF

new MDF file

**iter\_to\_pandas** ()

generator that yields channel groups as pandas DataFrames

**static merge** (*files, outversion='4.10', load\_measured\_data=True*)

merge several files and return the merged MDF object. The files must have the same internal structure (same number of groups, and same channels in each group)

**Parameters files** : list | tuple

list of MDF file names

**outversion** : str

merged file version

**load\_measured\_data** : bool

load data option; default *True*

- if *True* the data group binary data block will be loaded in RAM
- if *False* the channel data is stored to a temporary file and read from disk on request

**Returns merged** : MDF

new MDF object with merged channels

**Raises MdfException** : if there are inconsistencies between the files  
merged MDF object

**select** (*channels*)

return the channels listed in *channels* argument

**Parameters channels** : list

list of channel names to be filtered

**Returns signals** : list

list of *Signal* objects based on the input channel list

## 6.2.1 MDF3 and MDF4 classes

### MDF3

asammdf tries to emulate the mdf structure using Python builtin data types.

The *header* attribute is an *OrderedDict* that holds the file metadata.

The *groups* attribute is a dictionary list with the following keys:

- *data\_group* : *DataGroup* object
- *channel\_group* : *ChannelGroup* object
- *channels* : list of *Channel* objects with the same order as found in the mdf file
- *channel\_conversions* : list of *ChannelConversion* objects in 1-to-1 relation with the channel list
- *channel\_sources* : list of *SourceInformation* objects in 1-to-1 relation with the channels list
- *channel\_dependencies* : list of *ChannelDependency* objects in a 1-to-1 relation with the channel list
- *data\_block* : *DataBlock* object
- *texts* : dictionary containing *TextBlock* objects used throughout the mdf
  - *channels* : list of dictionaries that contain *TextBlock* objects related to each channel
    - \* *long\_name\_addr* : channel long name
    - \* *comment\_addr* : channel comment
    - \* *display\_name\_addr* : channel display name

- channel\_group : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to each channel group
  - \* comment\_addr : channel group comment
- conversion\_tab : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to VATB and VTABR channel conversions
  - \* text\_{n} : n-th text of the VTABR conversion
- sorted : bool flag to indicate if the source file was sorted; it is used when *load\_measured\_data = False*
- size : data block size; used for lazy loading of measured data
- record\_size : dict of record ID -> record size pairs

The *file\_history* attribute is a TextBlock object.

The *channel\_db* attribute is a dictionary that holds the (*data group index*, *channel index*) pair for all signals. This is used to speed up the *get\_signal\_by\_name* method.

The *master\_db* attribute is a dictionary that holds the *channel index* of the master channel for all data groups. This is used to speed up the *get\_signal\_by\_name* method.

## API

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.MDF3` (*name=None*, *load\_measured\_data=True*, *version='3.30'*)

If the *name* exist it will be loaded otherwise an empty file will be created that can be later saved to disk

**Parameters** *name* : string

mdf file name

**load\_measured\_data** : bool

load data option; default *True*

- if *True* the data group binary data block will be loaded in RAM
- if *False* the channel data is read from disk on request

**version** : string

mdf file version ('3.00', '3.10', '3.20' or '3.30'); default '3.30'

## Attributes

<b>name</b>	(string) mdf file name
<b>groups</b>	(list) list of data groups
<b>header</b>	(OrderedDict) mdf file header
<b>file_history</b>	(TextBlock) file history text block; can be None
<b>load_measured_data</b>	(bool) load measured data option
<b>version</b>	(str) mdf version
<b>channels_db</b>	(dict) used for fast channel access by name; for each name key the value is a list of (group index, channel index) tuples
<b>masters_db</b>	(dict) used for fast master channel access; for each group index key the value is the master channel index

## Methods

---

add_trigger
append
close
get
get_master
info
iter_get_triggers
save

---

**add\_trigger** (*group, timestamp, pre\_time=0, post\_time=0, comment=''*)  
add trigger to data group

**Parameters** **group** : int  
group index  
**timestamp** : float  
trigger time  
**pre\_time** : float  
trigger pre time; default 0  
**post\_time** : float  
trigger post time; default 0  
**comment** : str  
trigger comment

**append** (*signals, acquisition\_info='Python', common\_timebase=False*)  
Appends a new data group.

For channel dependencies type Signals, the *samples* attribute must be a numpy.recarray

**Parameters** **signals** : list  
list on *Signal* objects  
**acquisition\_info** : str  
acquisition information; default 'Python'  
**common\_timebase** : bool  
flag to hint that the signals have the same timebase

## Examples

```
>>> # case 1 conversion type None
>>> s1 = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
>>> s2 = np.array([-1, -2, -3, -4, -5])
>>> s3 = np.array([0.1, 0.04, 0.09, 0.16, 0.25])
>>> t = np.array([0.001, 0.002, 0.003, 0.004, 0.005])
>>> names = ['Positive', 'Negative', 'Float']
>>> units = ['+', '-', '.f']
>>> info = {}
>>> s1 = Signal(samples=s1, timestamps=t, unit='+', name='Positive')
```

```

>>> s2 = Signal(samples=s2, timestamps=t, unit='-', name='Negative')
>>> s3 = Signal(samples=s3, timestamps=t, unit='flts', name='Floats')
>>> mdf = MDF3('new.mdf')
>>> mdf.append([s1, s2, s3], 'created by asammdf v1.1.0')
>>> # case 2: VTAB conversions from channels inside another file
>>> mdf1 = MDF3('in.mdf')
>>> ch1 = mdf1.get("Channel1_VTAB")
>>> ch2 = mdf1.get("Channel2_VTABR")
>>> sigs = [ch1, ch2]
>>> mdf2 = MDF3('out.mdf')
>>> mdf2.append(sigs, 'created by asammdf v1.1.0')

```

**close()**

if the MDF was created with `load_measured_data=False` and new channels have been appended, then this must be called just before the object is not used anymore to clean-up the temporary file

**get** (*name=None, group=None, index=None, raster=None, samples\_only=False, data=None*)

Gets channel samples. Channel can be specified in two ways:

- using the first positional argument *name*
  - if there are multiple occurrences for this channel then the *group* and *index* arguments can be used to select a specific group. \* if there are multiple occurrences for this channel and either the *group* or *index* arguments is *None* then a warning is issued
- using the group number (keyword argument *group*) and the channel

number (keyword argument *index*). Use *info* method for group and channel numbers

If the *raster* keyword argument is not *None* the output is interpolated accordingly.

**Parameters** *name* : string

name of channel

**group** : int

0-based group index

**index** : int

0-based channel index

**raster** : float

time raster in seconds

**samples\_only** : bool

if *True* return only the channel samples as numpy array; if *False* return a *Signal* object

**Returns** *res* : (numpy.array | *Signal*)

returns *Signal* if *samples\_only=False* (default option), otherwise returns numpy.array. The *Signal* samples are:

- numpy recarray for channels that have CDBLOCK or BYTEARRAY
- type channels \* numpy array for all the rest

**Raises** *MdfError* :

\* if the channel name is not found

\* if the group index is out of range

\* if the channel index is out of range

**get\_master** (*index*, *data=None*)

returns master channel samples for given group

**Parameters** *index* : int

group index

**data** : bytes

data block raw bytes; default None

**Returns** *t* : numpy.array

master channel samples

**info** ()

get MDF information as a dict

## Examples

```
>>> mdf = MDF3('test.mdf')
>>> mdf.info()
```

**iter\_get\_triggers** ()

generator that yields triggers

**Returns** *trigger\_info* : dict

trigger information with the following keys:

- *comment* : trigger comment
- *time* : trigger time
- *pre\_time* : trigger pre time
- *post\_time* : trigger post time
- *index* : trigger index
- *group* : data group index of trigger

**save** (*dst=''*, *overwrite=False*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Save MDF to *dst*. If *dst* is not provided the the destination file name is the MDF name. If *overwrite* is *True* then the destination file is overwritten, otherwise the file name is appened with '*\_<cntr>*', were '*<cntr>*' is the first conter that produces a new file name (that does not already exist in the filesystem).

**Parameters** *dst* : str

destination file name, Default ''

**overwrite** : bool

overwrite flag, default *False*

**compression** : int

does nothing for mdf version3; introduced here to share the same API as mdf version 4 files



## MDF version 3 blocks

The following classes implement different MDF version3 blocks.

### Channel Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.Channel` (\*\*kargs)  
CNBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The Channel object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file
- using any of the following presented keys - when creating a new Channel

The keys have the following meaning:

- *id* - Block type identifier, always “CN”
- *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire CNBLOCK)
- *next\_ch\_addr* - Pointer to next channel block (CNBLOCK) of this channel
- *group* (NIL allowed) \* *conversion\_addr* - Pointer to the conversion formula (CCBLOCK) of this signal (NIL allowed)
- *source\_depend\_addr* - Pointer to the source-depending extensions (CEBLOCK) of this signal (NIL allowed)
- *ch\_depend\_addr* - Pointer to the dependency block (CDBLOCK) of this signal (NIL allowed)
- *comment\_addr* - Pointer to the channel comment (TXBLOCK) of this signal (NIL allowed)
- *channel\_type* - Channel type
  - 0 = data channel
  - 1 = time channel for all signals of this group (in each channel group, exactly one channel must be defined as time channel). The time stamps recording in a time channel are always relative to the start time of the measurement defined in HDBLOCK.
- *short\_name* - Short signal name, i.e. the first 31 characters of the

ASAM-MCD name of the signal (end of text should be indicated by 0) \* *description* - Signal description (end of text should be indicated by 0) \* *start\_offset* - Start offset in bits to determine the first bit of the signal in the data record. The start offset N is divided into two parts: a “Byte offset” (= N div 8) and a “Bit offset” (= N mod 8). The channel block can define an “additional Byte offset” (see below) which must be added to the Byte offset. \* *bit\_count* - Number of bits used to encode the value of this signal in a data record
- \* *data\_type* - Signal data type
- \* *range\_flag* - Value range valid flag
- \* *min\_raw\_value* - Minimum signal value that occurred for this signal (raw value)
- \* *max\_raw\_value* - Maximum signal value that occurred for this signal (raw value)
- \* *sampling\_rate* - Sampling rate for a virtual time channel. Unit [s]
- \* *long\_name\_addr* - Pointer to TXBLOCK that contains the ASAM-MCD long signal name
- \* *display\_name\_addr* - Pointer to TXBLOCK that contains the signal’s display name (NIL allowed)
- \* *additional\_byte\_offset* - Additional Byte offset of the signal in the data record (default value: 0).

**Parameters** *file\_stream* : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

## Examples

```
>>> with open('test.mdf', 'rb') as mdf:
...     ch1 = Channel(file_stream=mdf, address=0xBA52)
>>> ch2 = Channel()
>>> ch1.name
'VehicleSpeed'
>>> ch1['id']
b'CN'
```

## Attributes

<b>name</b>	(str) full channel name
<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
<b>dependencies</b>	(list) list of channel dependencies

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

## ChannelConversion Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.ChannelConversion` (\*\*kargs)

CCBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The ChannelConversion object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading

from file \* using any of the following presented keys - when creating a new ChannelConversion

The first keys are common for all conversion types, and are followed by conversion specific keys. The keys have the following meaning:

- common keys
  - *id* - Block type identifier, always “CC”
  - *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire CCBLOCK)
  - *range\_flag* - Physical value range valid flag:
  - *min\_phy\_value* - Minimum physical signal value that occurred for this

signal \* max\_phy\_value - Maximum physical signal value that occurred for this signal \* unit  
 - Physical unit (string should be terminated with 0) \* conversion\_type - Conversion type (formula identifier) \* ref\_param\_nr - Size information about additional conversion data

- specific keys
  - linear conversion
    - \* b - offset
    - \* a - factor
    - \* CANapeHiddenExtra - sometimes CANape appends extra information;
 not compliant with MDF specs
  - ASAM formula conversion
    - \* formula - equation as string
  - polynomial or rational conversion
    - \* P1 .. P6 - factors
  - exponential or logarithmic conversion
    - \* P1 .. P7 - factors
  - tabular with or without interpolation (grouped by *n*)
    - \* raw\_{n} - n-th raw integer value (X axis)
    - \* phys\_{n} - n-th physical value (Y axis)
  - text table conversion
    - \* param\_val\_{n} - n-th integers value (X axis)
    - \* text\_{n} - n-th text value (Y axis)
  - text range table conversion
    - \* lower\_{n} - n-th lower raw value
    - \* upper\_{n} - n-th upper raw value
    - \* text\_{n} - n-th text value

**Parameters** file\_stream : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

## Examples

```
>>> with open('test.mdf', 'rb') as mdf:
...     cc1 = ChannelConversion(file_stream=mdf, address=0xBA52)
>>> cc2 = ChannelConversion(conversion_type=0)
>>> cc1['b'], cc1['a']
0, 100.0
```

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
----------------	-------------------------------------

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

## ChannelDependency Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.ChannelDependency` (\*\*kargs)

CDBLOCK class derived from *dict*

Currently the ChannelDependency object can only be created using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters when reading from file

The keys have the following meaning:

- *id* - Block type identifier, always “CD”
- *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire CDBLOCK)
- *dependency\_type* - Dependency type
- *sd\_nr* - Total number of signals dependencies (m)
- for each dependency there is a group of three keys:
  - *dg\_{n}* - Pointer to the data group block (DGBLOCK) of signal dependency *n*
  - *cg\_{n}* - Pointer to the channel group block (DGBLOCK) of signal dependency *n*
  - *ch\_{n}* - Pointer to the channel block (DGBLOCK) of signal dependency *n*
- there can also be optional keys which describe dimensions for the N-dimensional dependencies:
  - *dim\_{n}* - Optional: size of dimension *n* for N-dimensional dependency

**Parameters** *file\_stream* : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
----------------	-------------------------------------

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

## ChannelExtension Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.ChannelExtension` (*\*\*kargs*)

CEBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The ChannelExtension object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file
- using any of the following presented keys - when creating a new ChannelExtension

The first keys are common for all conversion types, and are followed by conversion specific keys. The keys have the following meaning:

- common keys
  - id - Block type identifier, always “CE”
  - block\_len - Block size of this block in bytes (entire CEBLOCK)
  - type - Extension type identifier
- specific keys
  - for DIM block
    - \* module\_nr - Number of module
    - \* module\_address - Address
    - \* description - Description
    - \* ECU\_identification - Identification of ECU
    - \* reserved0' - reserved
  - for Vector CAN block
    - \* CAN\_id - Identifier of CAN message
    - \* CAN\_ch\_index - Index of CAN channel

- \* `message_name` - Name of message (string should be terminated by 0)
- \* `sender_name` - Name of sender (string should be terminated by 0)
- \* `reserved0` - reserved

**Parameters** `file_stream` : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

### Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
----------------	-------------------------------------

### Methods

<code>clear</code>	
<code>copy</code>	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
<code>fromkeys</code>	
<code>get</code>	
<code>items</code>	
<code>keys</code>	
<code>pop</code>	
<code>popitem</code>	
<code>setdefault</code>	
<code>update</code>	
<code>values</code>	

## ChannelGroup Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.ChannelGroup` (\*\*kargs)

CGBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The ChannelGroup object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file
- using any of the following presented keys - when creating a new ChannelGroup

The keys have the following meaning:

- `id` - Block type identifier, always “CG”
- `block_len` - Block size of this block in bytes (entire CGBLOCK)
- `next_cg_addr` - Pointer to next channel group block (CGBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- `first_ch_addr` - Pointer to first channel block (CNBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- `comment_addr` - Pointer to channel group comment text (TXBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- `record_id` - Record ID, i.e. value of the identifier for a record if the DGBLOCK defines a number of record IDs > 0

- `ch_nr` - Number of channels (redundant information)
- `samples_byte_nr` - Size of data record in Bytes (without record ID), i.e. size of plain data for a each recorded sample of this channel group
- `cycles_nr` - Number of records of this type in the data block i.e. number of samples for this channel group
- `sample_reduction_addr` - only since version 3.3. Pointer to first sample reduction block (SRBLOCK) (NIL allowed) Default value: NIL.

**Parameters** `file_stream` : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

## Examples

```
>>> with open('test.mdf', 'rb') as mdf:
...     cg1 = ChannelGroup(file_stream=mdf, address=0xBA52)
>>> cg2 = ChannelGroup(sample_bytes_nr=32)
>>> hex(cg1.address)
0xBA52
>>> cg1['id']
b'CG'
```

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
----------------	-------------------------------------

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

## DataGroup Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.DataGroup` (\*\*kargs)  
 DGBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The DataGroup object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file
- using any of the following presented keys - when creating a new DataGroup

The keys have the following meaning:

- *id* - Block type identifier, always “DG”
- *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire DGBLOCK)
- *next\_dg\_addr* - Pointer to next data group block (DGBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- *first\_cg\_addr* - Pointer to first channel group block (CGBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- *trigger\_addr* - Pointer to trigger block (TRBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- *data\_block\_addr* - Pointer to the data block (see separate chapter on data storage)
- *cg\_nr* - Number of channel groups (redundant information)
- *record\_id\_nr* - Number of record IDs in the data block
- *reserved0* - since version 3.2; Reserved

**Parameters** *file\_stream* : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
----------------	-------------------------------------

## Methods

<code>clear</code>	
<code>copy</code>	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
<code>fromkeys</code>	
<code>get</code>	
<code>items</code>	
<code>keys</code>	
<code>pop</code>	
<code>popitem</code>	
<code>setdefault</code>	
<code>update</code>	
<code>values</code>	

## FileIdentificationBlock Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.FileIdentificationBlock` (\*\*kargs)  
IDBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The TriggerBlock object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file



- using the classmethod *from\_text*

The keys have the following meaning:

- `file_identification` - file identifier
- `version_str` - format identifier
- `program_identification` - program identifier
- `byte_order` - default byte order
- `float_format` - default floating-point format
- `mdf_version` - version number of MDF format
- `code_page` - code page number
- `reserved0` - reserved
- `reserved1` - reserved
- `unfinalized_standard_flags` - Standard Flags for unfinalized MDF
- `unfinalized_custom_flags` - Custom Flags for unfinalized MDF

**Parameters** `file_stream` : file handle

mdf file handle

**version** : int

mdf version in case of new file

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file; should be 0 always
----------------	---

## Methods

<code>clear</code>	
<code>copy</code>	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
<code>fromkeys</code>	
<code>get</code>	
<code>items</code>	
<code>keys</code>	
<code>pop</code>	
<code>popitem</code>	
<code>setdefault</code>	
<code>update</code>	
<code>values</code>	

## HeaderBlock Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.HeaderBlock` (\*\*kargs)

HDBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The TriggerBlock object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* - when reading from file
- using the classmethod *from\_text*

The keys have the following meaning:

- *id* - Block type identifier, always “HD”
- *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire HDBLOCK)
- *first\_dg\_addr* - Pointer to the first data group block (DGBLOCK)
- *comment\_addr* - Pointer to the measurement file comment text (TXBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- *program\_addr* - Pointer to program block (PRBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- *dg\_nr* - Number of data groups (redundant information)
- *date* - Date at which the recording was started in “DD:MM:YYYY” format
- *time* - Time at which the recording was started in “HH:MM:SS” format
- *author* - author name
- *organization* - organization
- *project* - project name
- *subject* - subject

Since version 3.2 the following extra keys were added:

- *abs\_time* - Time stamp at which recording was started in nanoseconds.
- *tz\_offset* - UTC time offset in hours (= GMT time zone)
- *time\_quality* - Time quality class
- *timer\_identification* - Timer identification (time source),

**Parameters** *file\_stream* : file handle

mdf file handle

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file; should be 64 always
----------------	--

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
Continued on next page	

Table 6.10 – continued from previous page

values

## ProgramBlock Class

## SampleReduction Class

## TextBlock Class

**class** asammdf.mdf3.**TextBlock** (\*\*kargs)

TXBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The ProgramBlock object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file
- using the classmethod *from\_text*

The keys have the following meaning:

- *id* - Block type identifier, always “TX”
- *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire TXBLOCK)
- *text* - Text (new line indicated by CR and LF; end of text indicated by 0)

**Parameters** *file\_stream* : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

**text** : bytes

bytes for creating a new TextBlock

## Examples

```
>>> tx1 = TextBlock.from_text('VehicleSpeed')
>>> tx1.text_str
'VehicleSpeed'
>>> tx1['text']
b'VehicleSpeed'
```

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
<b>text_str</b>	(str) text data as unicode string

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

## TriggerBlock Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf3.TriggerBlock` (*\*\*kargs*)  
TRBLOCK class derived from *dict*

The TriggerBlock object can be created in two modes:

- using the *file\_stream* and *address* keyword parameters - when reading from file
- using the classmethod *from\_text*

The keys have the following meaning:

- *id* - Block type identifier, always “TX”
- *block\_len* - Block size of this block in bytes (entire TRBLOCK)
- *text\_addr* - Pointer to trigger comment text (TXBLOCK) (NIL allowed)
- *trigger\_events\_nr* - Number of trigger events *n* (0 allowed)
- *trigger\_{n}\_time* - Trigger time [s] of trigger event *n*
- *trigger\_{n}\_pretime* - Pre trigger time [s] of trigger event *n*
- *trigger\_{n}\_posttime* - Post trigger time [s] of trigger event *n*

**Parameters** *file\_stream* : file handle

mdf file handle

**address** : int

block address inside mdf file

## Attributes

<b>address</b>	(int) block address inside mdf file
----------------	-------------------------------------

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
Continued on next page	

Table 6.12 – continued from previous page

fromkeys
get
items
keys
pop
popitem
setdefault
update
values

## MDF4

asammdf tries to emulate the mdf structure using Python builtin data types.

The *header* attribute is an OrderedDict that holds the file metadata.

The *groups* attribute is a dictionary list with the following keys:

- *data\_group* : DataGroup object
- *channel\_group* : ChannelGroup object
- *channels* : list of Channel objects with the same order as found in the mdf file
- *channel\_conversions* : list of ChannelConversion objects in 1-to-1 relation with the channel list
- *channel\_sources* : list of SourceInformation objects in 1-to-1 relation with the channels list
- *data\_block* : DataBlock object
- *texts* : dictionary containing TextBlock objects used throughout the mdf
  - *channels* : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to each channel
    - \* *name\_addr* : channel name
    - \* *comment\_addr* : channel comment
  - *channel group* : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to each channel group
    - \* *acq\_name\_addr* : channel group acquisition comment
    - \* *comment\_addr* : channel group comment
  - *conversion\_tab* : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to TABX and RTABX channel conversions
    - \* *text\_{n}* : n-th text of the VTABR conversion
    - \* *default\_addr* : default text
  - *conversions* : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to channel conversions
    - \* *name\_addr* : conversions name
    - \* *unit\_addr* : channel unit\_addr
    - \* *comment\_addr* : conversion comment
    - \* *formula\_addr* : formula text; only valid for algebraic conversions
  - *sources* : list of dictionaries that contain TextBlock objects related to channel sources
    - \* *name\_addr* : source name

- \* path\_addr : source path\_addr
- \* comment\_addr : source comment

The *file\_history* attribute is a list of (FileHistory, TextBlock) pairs .

The *channel\_db* attribute is a dictionary that holds the (*data group index*, *channel index*) pair for all signals. This is used to speed up the *get\_signal\_by\_name* method.

The *master\_db* attribute is a dictionary that holds the *channel index* of the master channel for all data groups. This is used to speed up the *get\_signal\_by\_name* method.

## API

**class** `asammdf.mdf4.MDF4` (*name=None*, *load\_measured\_data=True*, *version='4.10'*)

If the *name* exist it will be loaded otherwise an empty file will be created that can be later saved to disk

**Parameters** *name* : string

mdf file name

**load\_measured\_data** : bool

load data option; default *True*

- if *True* the data group binary data block will be loaded in RAM
- if *False* the channel data is read from disk on request

**version** : string

mdf file version ('4.00', '4.10', '4.11'); default '4.10'

## Attributes

<b>name</b>	(string) mdf file name
<b>groups</b>	(list) list of data groups
<b>header</b>	(HeaderBlock) mdf file header
<b>file_history</b>	(list) list of (FileHistory, TextBlock) pairs
<b>comment</b>	(TextBlock) mdf file comment
<b>identification</b>	(FileIdentificationBlock) mdf file start block
<b>load_measured_data</b>	(bool) load measured data option
<b>version</b>	(str) mdf version
<b>channels_db</b>	(dict) used for fast channel access by name; for each name key the value is a list of (group index, channel index) tuples
<b>masters_db</b>	(dict) used for fast master channel access; for each group index key the value is the master channel index

## Methods

---

`append`

---

`attach`

---

`close`

---

`extract_attachment`

---

Continued on next page

Table 6.13 – continued from previous page

get
get_master
info
save

**append** (*signals*, *source\_info*='Python', *common\_timebase*=False)

Appends a new data group.

For channel dependencies type Signals, the *samples* attribute must be a numpy.recarray

**Parameters** *signals* : list

list on *Signal* objects

**source\_info** : str

source information; default 'Python'

**common\_timebase** : bool

flag to hint that the signals have the same timebase

## Examples

```
>>> # case 1 conversion type None
>>> s1 = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
>>> s2 = np.array([-1, -2, -3, -4, -5])
>>> s3 = np.array([0.1, 0.04, 0.09, 0.16, 0.25])
>>> t = np.array([0.001, 0.002, 0.003, 0.004, 0.005])
>>> names = ['Positive', 'Negative', 'Float']
>>> units = ['+', '-', '.f']
>>> info = {}
>>> s1 = Signal(samples=s1, timestamps=t, unit='+', name='Positive')
>>> s2 = Signal(samples=s2, timestamps=t, unit='-', name='Negative')
>>> s3 = Signal(samples=s3, timestamps=t, unit='flts', name='Floats')
>>> mdf = MDF3('new.mdf')
>>> mdf.append([s1, s2, s3], 'created by asammdf v1.1.0')
>>> # case 2: VTAB conversions from channels inside another file
>>> mdf1 = MDF3('in.mdf')
>>> ch1 = mdf1.get("Channel1_VTAB")
>>> ch2 = mdf1.get("Channel2_VTABR")
>>> sigs = [ch1, ch2]
>>> mdf2 = MDF3('out.mdf')
>>> mdf2.append(sigs, 'created by asammdf v1.1.0')
```

**attach** (*data*, *file\_name*=None, *comment*=None, *compression*=True, *mime*='application/octet-stream')

attach embedded attachment as application/octet-stream

**Parameters** *data* : bytes

data to be attached

**file\_name** : str

string file name

**comment** : str

attachment comment

**compression** : bool

use compression for embedded attachment data

**mime** : str

mime type string

**close** ()

if the MDF was created with `load_measured_data=False` and new channels have been appended, then this must be called just before the object is not used anymore to clean-up the temporary file

**extract\_attachment** (*index*)

extract attachemnt *index* data. If it is an embedded attachment, then this method creates the new file according to the attachemnt file name information

**Parameters** **index** : int

attachment index

**Returns** **data** : bytes | str

attachment data

**get** (*name=None, group=None, index=None, raster=None, samples\_only=False, data=None*)

Gets channel samples. Channel can be specified in two ways:

- using the first positional argument *name*
  - if there are multiple occurances for this channel then the *group* and *index* arguments can be used to select a specific group. \* if there are multiple occurances for this channel and either the *group* or *index* arguments is *None* then a warning is issued
- using the group number (keyword argument *group*) and the channel

number (keyword argument *index*). Use *info* method for group and channel numbers

If the *raster* keyword argument is not *None* the output is interpolated accordingly

**Parameters** **name** : string

name of channel

**group** : int

0-based group index

**index** : int

0-based channel index

**raster** : float

time raster in seconds

**samples\_only** : bool

if *True* return only the channel samples as numpy array; if *False* return a *Signal* object

**Returns** **res** : (numpy.array | *Signal*)

returns *Signal* if *samples\_only*!=*False* (default option), otherwise returns numpy.array The *Signal* samples are:



- numpy recarray for channels that have composition/channel array address or for channel of type BYTEARRAY, CANOPENDATE, CANOPENTIME \* numpy array for all the rest

**Raises MdfError :**

- \* if the channel name is not found
- \* if the group index is out of range
- \* if the channel index is out of range

**get\_master** (*index*, *data=None*)

returns master channel samples for given group

**Parameters** *index* : int

group index

**data** : bytes

data block raw bytes; default None

**Returns** *t* : numpy.array

master channel samples

**info** ()

get MDF information as a dict

## Examples

```
>>> mdf = MDF4('test.mdf')
>>> mdf.info()
```

**save** (*dst=''*, *overwrite=False*, *compression=0*)

Save MDF to *dst*. If *dst* is not provided the the destination file name is the MDF name. If *overwrite* is *True* then the destination file is overwritten, otherwise the file name is appened with '*\_<cntr>*', were '*<cntr>*' is the first conter that produces a new file name (that does not already exist in the filesystem)

**Parameters** *dst* : str

destination file name, Default ''

**overwrite** : bool

overwrite flag, default *False*

**compression** : int

use compressed data blocks, default 0; valid since version 4.10

- 0 - no compression
- 1 - deflate (slower, but produces smaller files)
- 2 - transposition + deflate (slowest, but produces the smallest files)

## MDF version 4 blocks

The following classes implement different MDF version3 blocks.

### AttachmentBlock Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf4.AttachmentBlock` (\*\*kargs)  
ATBLOCK class

When adding new attachments only embedded attachemnts are allowed, with keyword argument *data* of type bytes

#### Methods

<code>clear</code>	
<code>copy</code>	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
<code>extract</code>	
<code>fromkeys</code>	
<code>get</code>	
<code>items</code>	
<code>keys</code>	
<code>pop</code>	
<code>popitem</code>	
<code>setdefault</code>	
<code>update</code>	
<code>values</code>	

### Channel Class

**class** `asammdf.mdf4.Channel` (\*\*kargs)  
CNBLOCK class

#### Methods

<code>clear</code>	
<code>copy</code>	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
<code>fromkeys</code>	
<code>get</code>	
<code>items</code>	
<code>keys</code>	
<code>pop</code>	
<code>popitem</code>	
<code>setdefault</code>	
<code>update</code>	
<code>values</code>	

### ChannelConversion Class

```
class asammdf.mdf4.ChannelConversion(**kargs)
    CCBLOCK class
```

#### Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

### ChannelGroup Class

```
class asammdf.mdf4.ChannelGroup(**kargs)
    CGBLOCK class
```

#### Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

### DataGroup Class

```
class asammdf.mdf4.DataGroup(**kargs)
    DGBLOCK class
```

#### Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

DataList Class

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**DataList** (\*\*kargs)  
DLBLOCK class

Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

DataBlock Class

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**DataBlock** (\*\*kargs)  
DTBLOCK class

**Parameters** address : int  
DTBLOCK address inside the file  
**file\_stream** : int  
file handle

Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
Continued on next page	

Table 6.20 – continued from previous page

fromkeys
get
items
keys
pop
popitem
setdefault
update
values

**FileIdentificationBlock Class**

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**FileIdentificationBlock** (\*\*kargs)  
IDBLOCK class

**Methods**

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

**HeaderBlock Class**

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**HeaderBlock** (\*\*kargs)  
HDBLOCK class

**Methods**

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	

Continued on next page

Table 6.22 – continued from previous page

---

values

---

### SourceInformation Class

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**SourceInformation** (\*\*kargs)  
SIBLOCK class

#### Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

### FileHistory Class

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**FileHistory** (\*\*kargs)  
FHBLOCK class

#### Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

### TextBlock Class

**class** asammdf.mdf4.**TextBlock** (\*\*kargs)  
common TXBLOCK and MDBLOCK class

## Methods

clear	
copy	Generic (shallow and deep) copying operations.
fromkeys	
get	
items	
keys	
pop	
popitem	
setdefault	
update	
values	

### 6.2.2 Notes about *load\_measured\_data* argument

By default when the *MDF* object is created the raw channel data is loaded into RAM. This will give you the best performance from *asammdf*.

However if you reach the physical memory limit *asammdf* gives you the option use the *load\_measured\_data* flag. In this case the raw channel data is not read.

#### *MDF* defaults

Advantages

- best performance

Disadvantages

- higher RAM usage, there is the chance the file will exceed available RAM

Use case

- when data fits inside the system RAM

#### *MDF* with *load\_measured\_data*

Advantages

- lowest RAM usage
- can handle files that do not fit in the available physical memory

Disadvantages

- slow performance for getting channel data
- must call *close* method to release the temporary file used in case of appending.

---

**Note:** it is advised to use the *MDF* context manager in this case

---

Use case

- when *default* data exceeds available RAM

- it is advised to avoid getting individual channels when using this ioption.

Instead you can get performance close to `load_measured_data=True` if you use the *select* method with the list of target channels.

---

**Note:** See benchmarks for the effects of using the flag

---

## 6.3 Signal

**class** `asammdf.signal.Signal` (*samples=None, timestamps=None, unit='', name='', info=None, comment=''*)

The `Signal` represents a signal described by its samples and timestamps. It can do arithmetic operations against other `Signal` or numeric type. The operations are computed in respect to the timestamps (time correct). The integer signals are not interpolated, instead the last value relative to the current timestamp is used. *samples*, *timestamps* and *name* are mandatory arguments.

**Parameters** **samples** : `numpy.array` | list | tuple

signal samples

**timestamps** : `numpy.array` | list | tuple

signal timestamps

**unit** : str

signal unit

**name** : str

signal name

**info** : dict

dict that contains extra information about the signal , default *None*

**comment** : str

signal comment, default ''

### Methods

---

`astype`

`cut`

`extend`

`interp`

`plot`

---

**astype** (*np\_type*)

returns new *Signal* with samples of dtype *np\_type*

**cut** (*start=None, stop=None*)

Cuts the signal according to the *start* and *stop* values, by using the insertion indexes in the signal's *time* axis.

**Parameters** **start** : float



start timestamp for cutting

**stop** : float

stop timestamp for cutting

**Returns** **result** : Signal

new *Signal* cut from the original

## Examples

```
>>> new_sig = old_sig.cut(1.0, 10.5)
>>> new_sig.timestamps[0], new_sig.timestamps[-1]
0.98, 10.48
```

**extend** (*other*)

extend signal with samples from another signal

**Parameters** **other** : Signal

**interp** (*new\_timestamps*)

returns a new *Signal* interpolated using the *new\_timestamps*

**plot** ()

plot Signal samples

## 6.4 Examples

### 6.4.1 Working with MDF

```
from __future__ import print_function, division
from asammdf import MDF, Signal, configure
import numpy as np

# configure asammdf to optimize disk space usage
configure(integer_compacting=True)
# configure asammdf to split data blocks on 10KB blocks
configure(split_data_blocks=True, split_threshold=10*1024)

# create 3 Signal objects

timestamps = np.array([0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5], dtype=np.float32)

# uint8
s_uint8 = Signal(samples=np.array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4], dtype=np.uint8),
                 timestamps=timestamps,
                 name='UInt8_Signal',
                 unit='u1')

# int32
s_int32 = Signal(samples=np.array([-20, -10, 0, 10, 20], dtype=np.int32),
                 timestamps=timestamps,
                 name='Int32_Signal',
                 unit='i4')
```

```
# float64
s_float64 = Signal(samples=np.array([-20, -10, 0, 10, 20], dtype=np.int32),
                  timestamps=timestamps,
                  name='Float64_Signal',
                  unit='f8')

# create empty MDf version 4.00 file
mdf4 = MDF(version='4.10')

# append the 3 signals to the new file
signals = [s_uint8, s_int32, s_float64]
mdf4.append(signals, 'Created by Python')

# save new file
mdf4.save('my_new_file.mf4', overwrite=True)

# convert new file to mdf version 3.10 with load_measured_data=False
mdf3 = mdf4.convert(to='3.10', load_measured_data=False)
print(mdf3.version)

# get the float signal
sig = mdf3.get('Float64_Signal')
print(sig)

# cut measurement from 0.3s to end of measurement
mdf4_cut = mdf4.cut(start=0.3)
mdf4_cut.get('Float64_Signal').plot()

# cut measurement from start of measurement to 0.4s
mdf4_cut = mdf4.cut(stop=0.45)
mdf4_cut.get('Float64_Signal').plot()

# filter some signals from the file
mdf4 = mdf4.filter(['Int32_Signal', 'UInt8_Signal'])

# save using zipped transpose deflate blocks
mdf4.save('out.mf4', compression=2)
```

## 6.4.2 Working with Signal

```
from __future__ import print_function, division
from asammdf import Signal
import numpy as np

# create 3 Signal objects with different time stamps

# uint8 with 100ms time raster
timestamps = np.array([0.1 * t for t in range(5)], dtype=np.float32)
s_uint8 = Signal(samples=np.array([t for t in range(5)], dtype=np.uint8),
                timestamps=timestamps,
                name='UInt8_Signal',
                unit='u1')

# int32 with 50ms time raster
timestamps = np.array([0.05 * t for t in range(10)], dtype=np.float32)
```

```

s_int32 = Signal(samples=np.array(list(range(-500, 500, 100))), dtype=np.int32),
                timestamps=timestamps,
                name='Int32_Signal',
                unit='i4')

# float64 with 300ms time raster
timestamps = np.array([0.3 * t for t in range(3)], dtype=np.float32)
s_float64 = Signal(samples=np.array(list(range(2000, -1000, -1000))), dtype=np.int32),
                  timestamps=timestamps,
                  name='Float64_Signal',
                  unit='f8')

# map signals
xs = np.linspace(-1, 1, 50)
ys = np.linspace(-1, 1, 50)
X, Y = np.meshgrid(xs, ys)
vals = np.linspace(0, 180. / np.pi, 100)
phi = np.ones((len(vals), 50, 50), dtype=np.float64)
for i, val in enumerate(vals):
    phi[i] *= val
R = 1 - np.sqrt(X**2 + Y**2)
samples = np.cos(2 * np.pi * X + phi) * R
print(phi.shape, samples.shape)
timestamps = np.arange(0, 2, 0.02)

s_map = Signal(samples=samples,
               timestamps=timestamps,
               name='Variable Map Signal',
               unit='dB')
s_map.plot()

prod = s_float64 * s_uint8
prod.name = 'UInt8_Signal * Float64_Signal'
prod.unit = '*'
prod.plot()

pow2 = s_uint8 ** 2
pow2.name = 'UInt8_Signal ^ 2'
pow2.unit = 'u1^2'
pow2.plot()

allsum = s_uint8 + s_int32 + s_float64
allsum.name = 'UInt8_Signal + Int32_Signal + Float64_Signal'
allsum.unit = '+'
allsum.plot()

# inplace operations
pow2 *= -1
pow2.name = '- UInt8_Signal ^ 2'
pow2.plot()

# cut signal
s_int32.plot()
cut_signal = s_int32.cut(start=0.2, stop=0.35)
cut_signal.plot()

```



*asammdf* relies heavily on *dict* objects. Starting with Python 3.6 the *dict* objects are more compact and ordered (implementation detail); *asammdf* uses takes advantage of those changes so for best performance it is advised to use Python  $\geq 3.6$ .

### 7.1 Intro

The benchmarks were done using two test files (available here <https://github.com/danielhrisca/asammdf/issues/14>) (for mdf version 3 and 4) of around 170MB. The files contain 183 data groups and a total of 36424 channels.

*asammdf* 2.6.5 was compared against *mdfreader* 0.2.6 (latest versions from PyPI). *mdfreader* seems to be the most used Python package to handle MDF files, and it also supports both version 3 and 4 of the standard.

The three benchmark categories are file open, file save and extracting the data for all channels inside the file(36424 calls). For each category two aspect were noted: elapsed time and peak RAM usage.

### 7.2 Dependencies

You will need the following packages to be able to run the benchmark script

- psutil
- mdfreader

### 7.3 Usage

Extract the test files from the archive, or provide a folder that contains the files “test.mdf” and “test.mf4”. Run the module *bench.py* ( see `-help` option for available options )

## 7.4 x64 Python results

### Benchmark environment

- 3.6.2 (v3.6.2:5fd33b5, Jul 8 2017, 04:57:36) [MSC v.1900 64 bit (AMD64)]
- Windows-10-10.0.14393-SP0
- Intel64 Family 6 Model 94 Stepping 3, GenuineIntel
- 16GB installed RAM

### Notations used in the results

- `nodata` = `asammdf MDF` object created with `load_measured_data=False` (raw channel data not loaded into RAM)
- `compression` = `mdfreader mdf` object created with `compression=blosc`
- `compression bcolz 6` = `mdfreader mdf` object created with `compression=6`
- `noDataLoading` = `mdfreader mdf` object read with `noDataLoading=True`

### Files used for benchmark:

- 183 groups
- 36424 channels

### 7.4.1 Raw data

Open file	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv3	779	364
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv3	551	187
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv3	2672	545
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv3	3844	267
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv3	3886	1040
mdfreader 0.2.6 noDataLoading mdfv3	1400	198
asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv4	1883	435
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv4	1457	244
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv4	5371	1307
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv4	6470	1023
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv4	6894	1746
mdfreader 0.2.6 noDataLoading mdfv4	4078	943

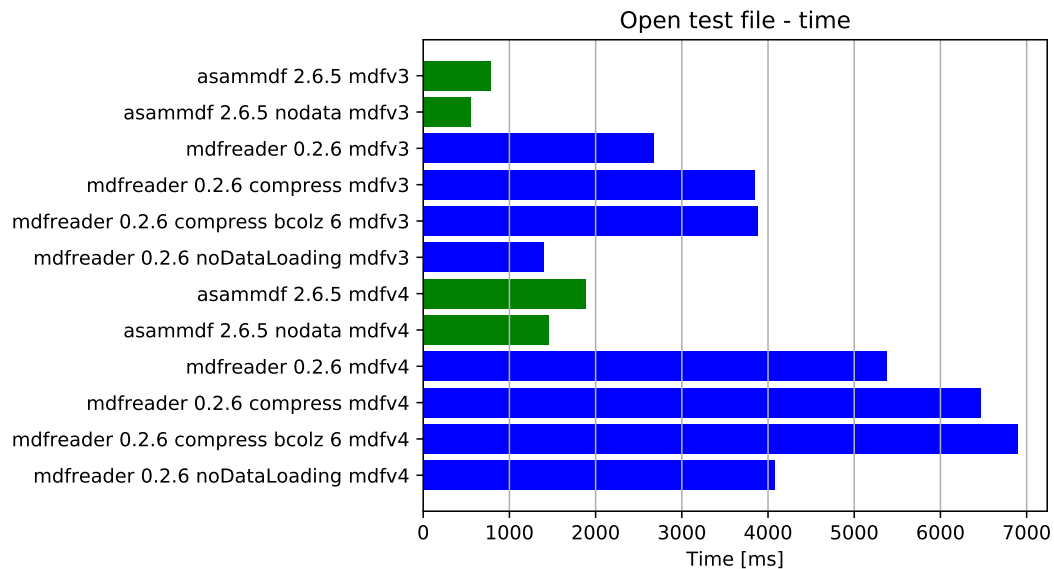
Save file	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv3	356	366
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv3	398	195
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv3	10164	577
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv3	12341	542
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv3	11427	958
asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv4	805	440
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv4	522	255
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv4	7256	1328
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv4	7010	1288
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz6 mdfv4	6688	1763

Get all channels (36424 calls)	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv3	657	370
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv3	9647	200
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv3	67	544
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv3	698	270
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv3	267	1042
asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv4	736	443
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv4	13552	254
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv4	64	1307
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv4	631	1031
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv4	304	1753

Convert file	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 v3 to v4	3675	823
asammdf 2.6.5 v3 to v4 nodata	4607	379
asammdf 2.6.5 v4 to v3	4442	831
asammdf 2.6.5 v4 to v3 nodata	5105	366

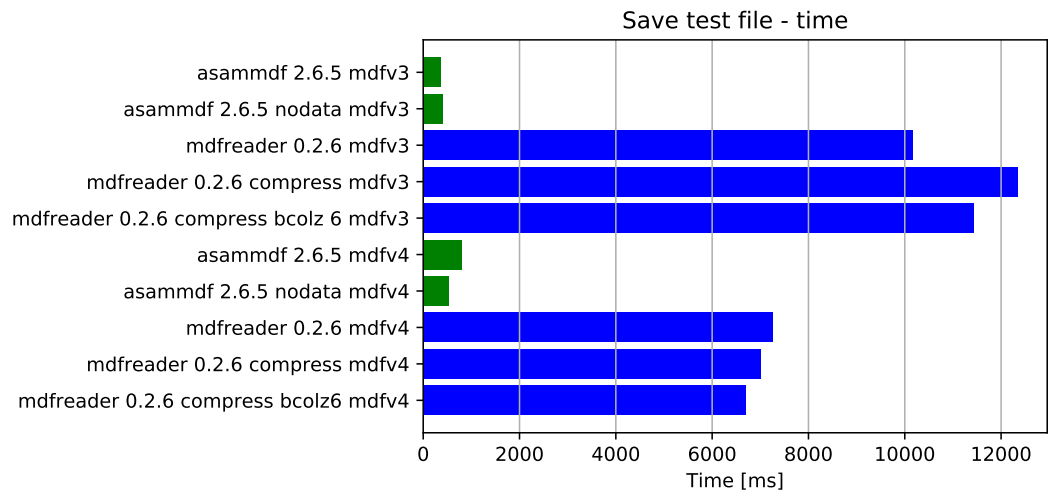
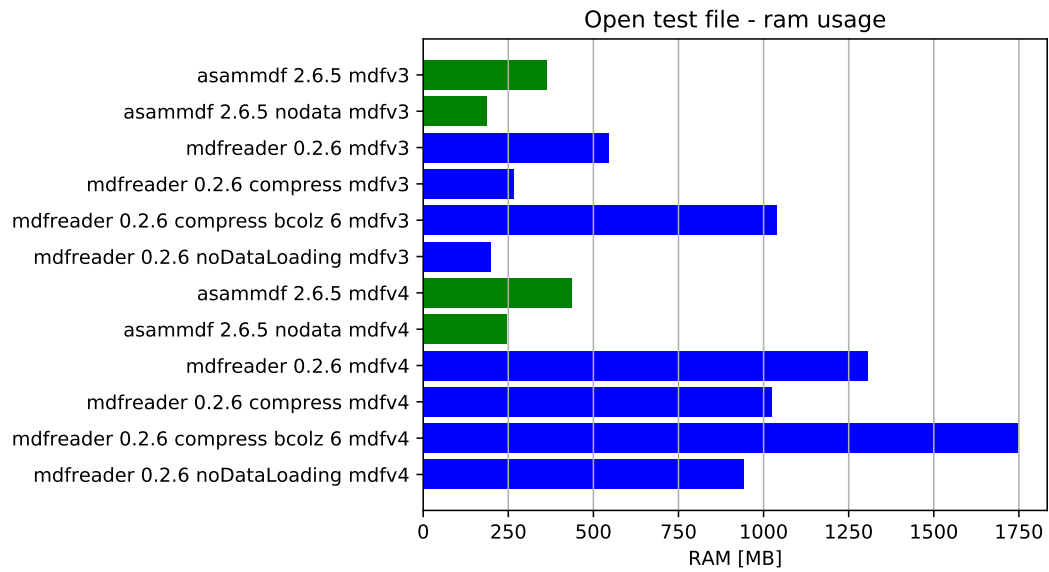
Merge files	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 v3	8605	1449
asammdf 2.6.5 v3 nodata	11089	544
asammdf 2.6.5 v4	13469	1536
asammdf 2.6.5 v4 nodata	15565	600

## 7.4.2 Graphical results

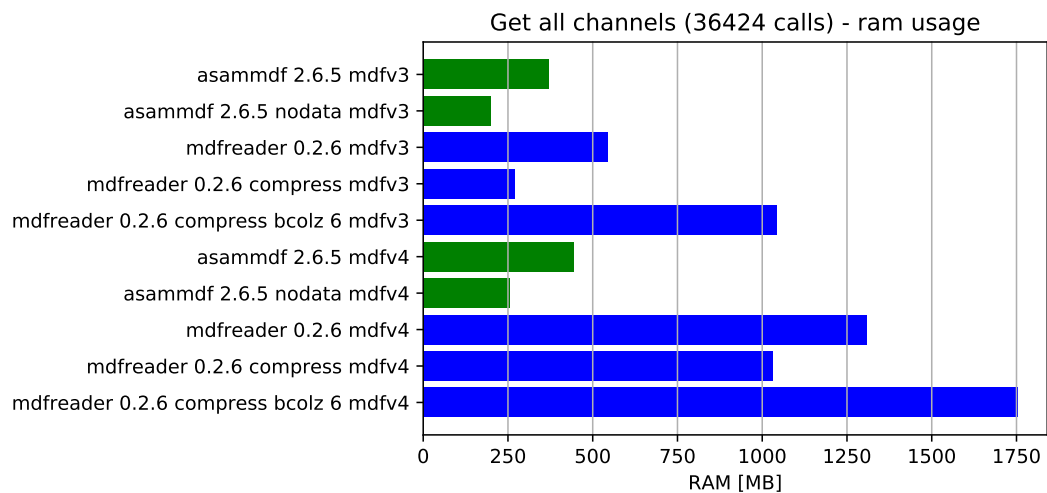
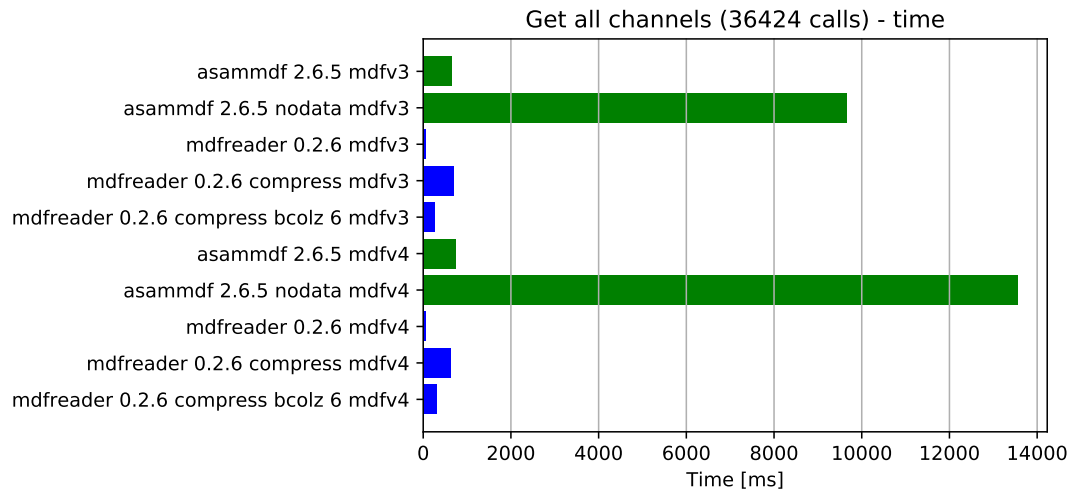
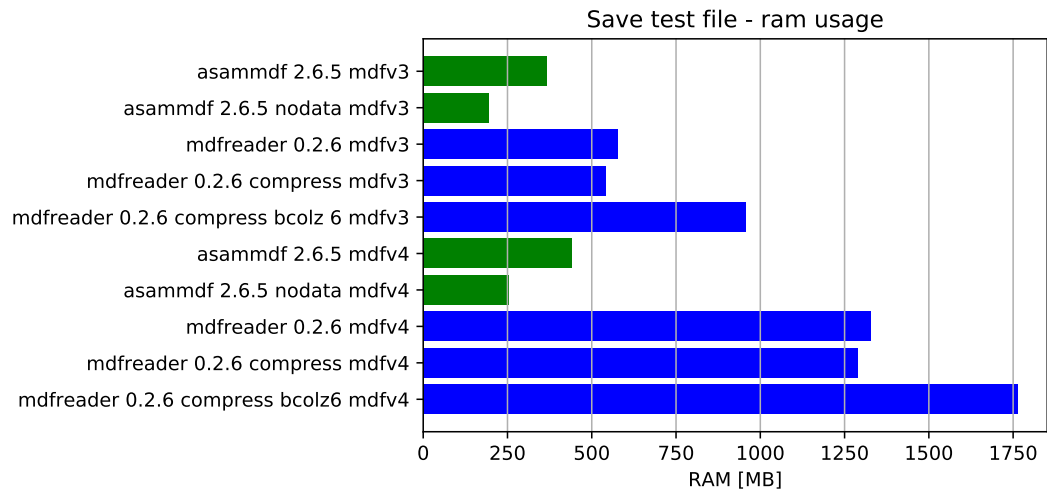


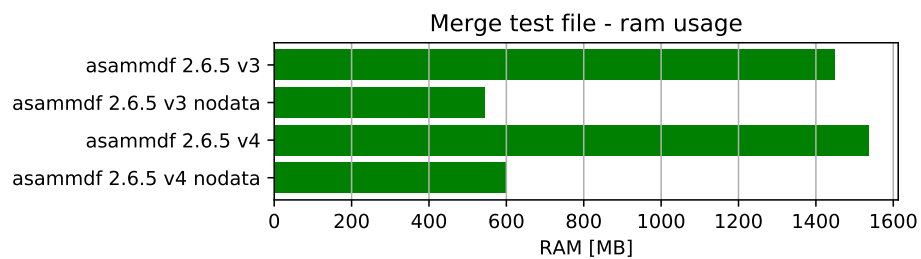
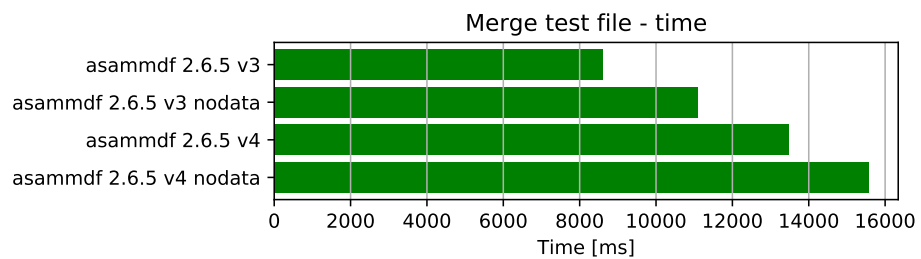
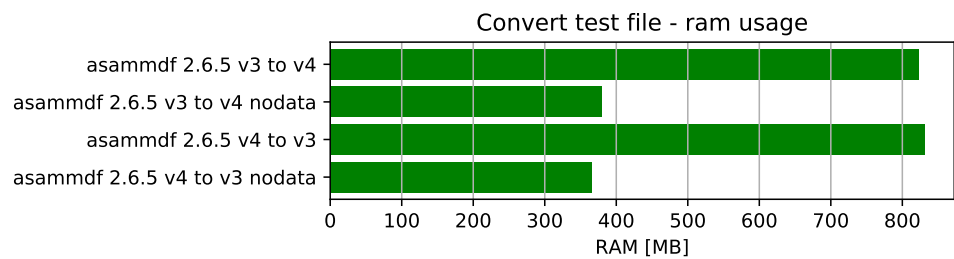
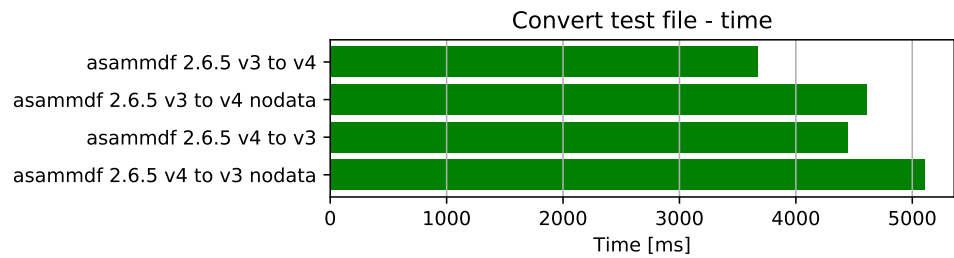
## 7.5 x86 Python results

Benchmark environment









- 3.6.1 (v3.6.1:69c0db5, Mar 21 2017, 17:54:52) [MSC v.1900 32 bit (Intel)]
- Windows-10-10.0.14393-SP0
- Intel64 Family 6 Model 94 Stepping 3, GenuineIntel
- 16GB installed RAM

Notations used in the results

- `nodata` = `asammdf MDF` object created with `load_measured_data=False` (raw channel data not loaded into RAM)
- `compression` = `mdfreader mdf` object created with `compression=blosc`
- `compression bcolz 6` = `mdfreader mdf` object created with `compression=6`
- `noDataLoading` = `mdfreader mdf` object read with `noDataLoading=True`

Files used for benchmark:

- 183 groups
- 36424 channels

### 7.5.1 Raw data

Open file	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv3</code>	916	286
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv3</code>	623	118
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv3</code>	3373	458
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv3</code>	4526	184
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv3</code>	4518	940
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 noDataLoading mdfv3</code>	1833	120
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv4</code>	2214	330
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv4</code>	1695	150
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv4</code>	6348	870
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv4</code>	7262	586
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv4</code>	7552	1294
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 noDataLoading mdfv4</code>	4797	522

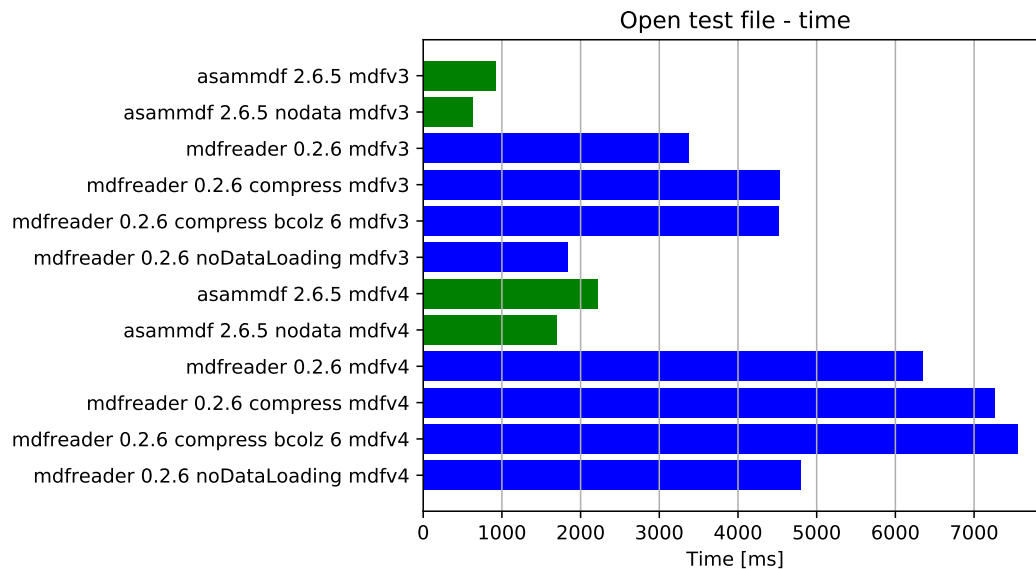
Save file	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv3</code>	462	290
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv3</code>	521	125
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv3</code>	9175	481
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv3</code>	9727	452
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdfv3</code>	9284	940
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 mdfv4</code>	657	334
<code>asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdfv4</code>	710	159
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 mdfv4</code>	6706	891
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdfv4</code>	7030	851
<code>mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz6 mdfv4</code>	6693	1311

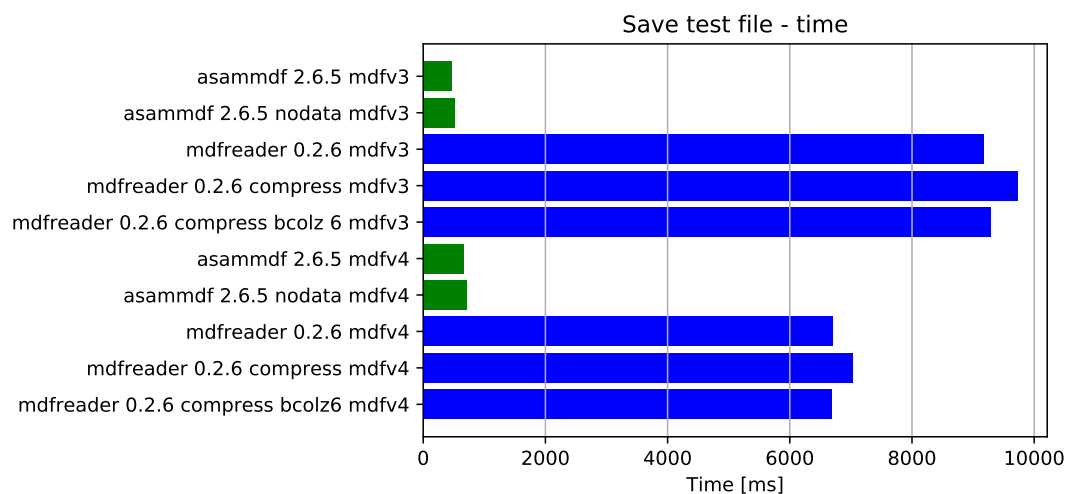
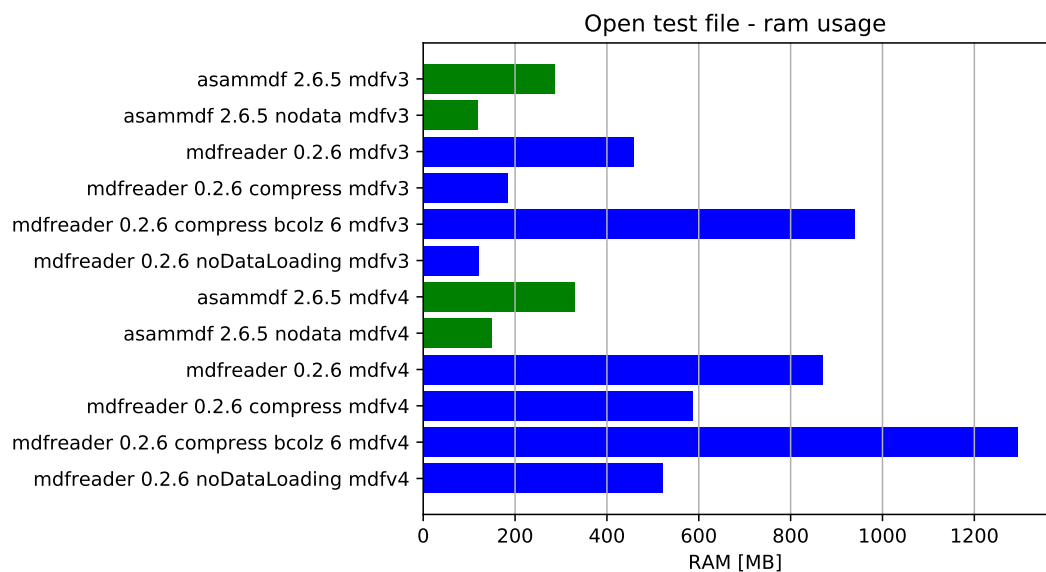
Get all channels (36424 calls)	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 mdv3	791	291
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdv3	18430	128
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdv3	78	457
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdv3	738	187
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdv3	299	941
asammdf 2.6.5 mdv4	863	334
asammdf 2.6.5 nodata mdv4	20637	157
mdfreader 0.2.6 mdv4	77	869
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress mdv4	653	593
mdfreader 0.2.6 compress bcolz 6 mdv4	313	1301

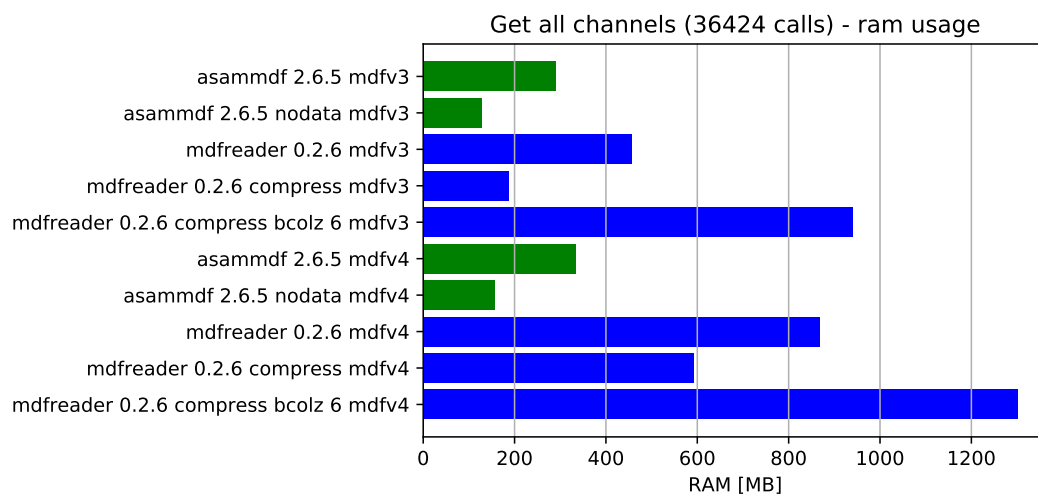
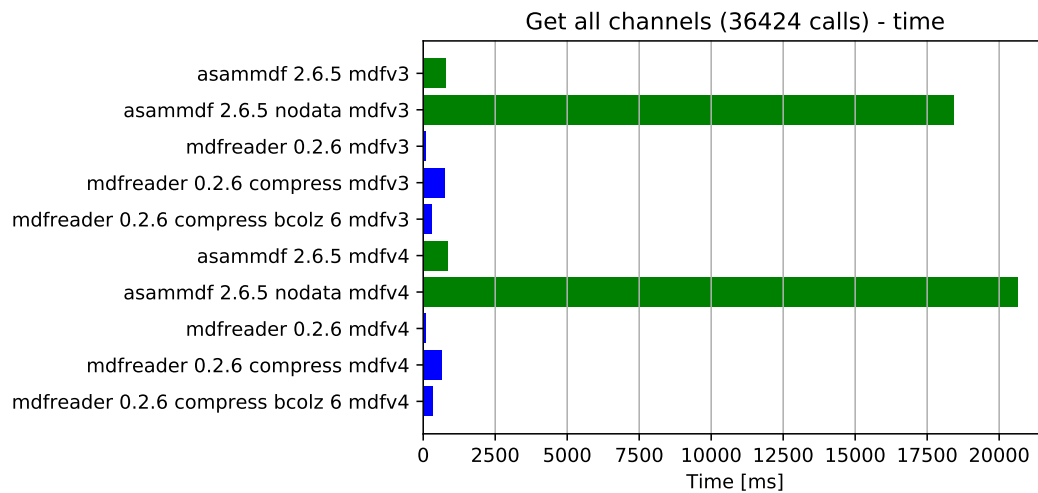
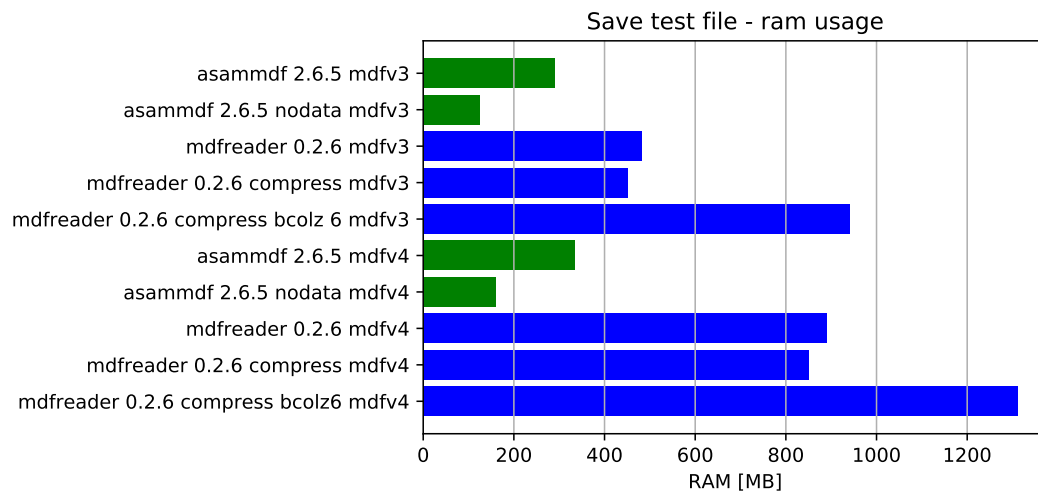
Convert file	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 v3 to v4	3843	680
asammdf 2.6.5 v3 to v4 nodata	4656	242
asammdf 2.6.5 v4 to v3	4261	681
asammdf 2.6.5 v4 to v3 nodata	5231	225

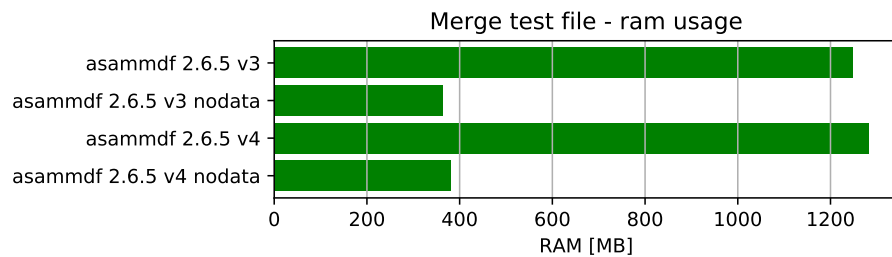
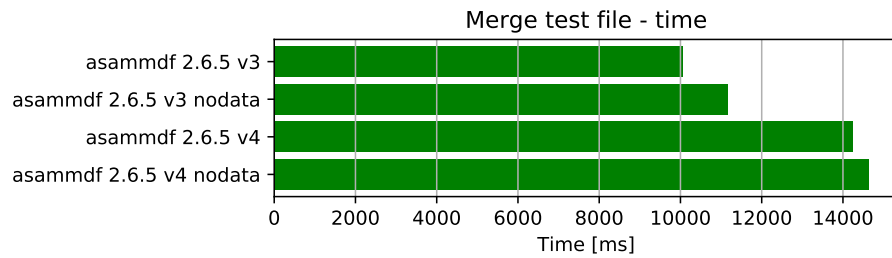
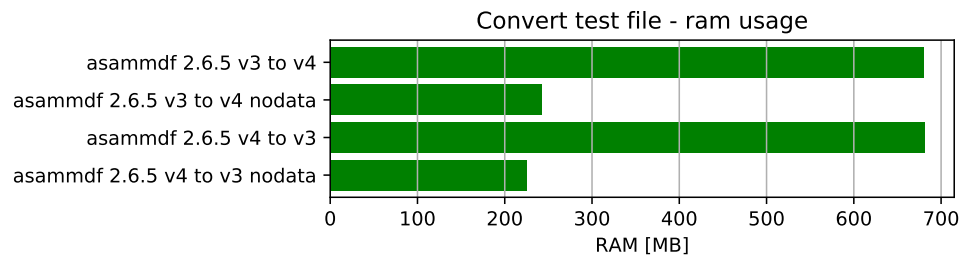
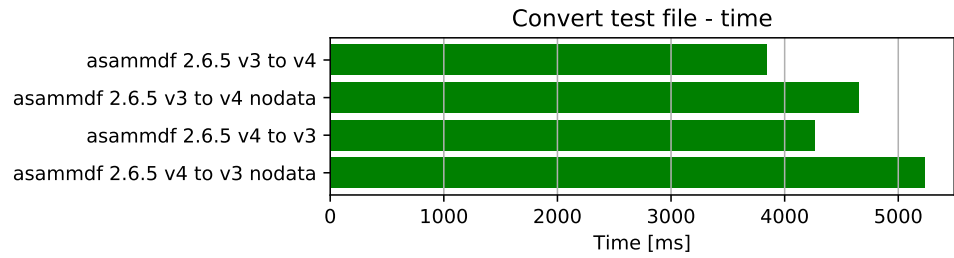
Merge files	Time [ms]	RAM [MB]
asammdf 2.6.5 v3	10058	1248
asammdf 2.6.5 v3 nodata	11174	363
asammdf 2.6.5 v4	14232	1282
asammdf 2.6.5 v4 nodata	14629	380

## 7.5.2 Graphical results













## CHAPTER 8

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---

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