

Pipeline Processing Information

The NICER L2 pipeline produces the files in the `xTi/event_cl` directory, as follows

UFA file (`ni<obsid>_0mpu7_ufa.evt`)

- This file is generated by `nicercal`, which adds the `PI` and `PI_FAST` columns as well as applying the clock corrections.
- All MPUs merged into a single file.
- MPU GTIs are combined with "AND" logic, so whenever any MPU is dead, all are excluded
- Events are filtered according to "`(filtexpr = EVENT_FLAGS=bx1x000)`", which removes all OVERSHOOT and UNDERSHOOT events, but leaves forced triggers and all photon events

CL file (`ni<obsid>_0mpu7_cl.evt`)

Events are filtered (using `nicerclean`) according to:

- (`pirange = 20:1500`) Energies from 0.2 to 15 keV
- (`trumpetfilt = YES`) Trumpet cut based on `PI_RATIO` is applied. Expression is: `PI_RATIO < fastconst + (fastsig/10 eV)/PI + fastquart*PI**3`
 - (`fastconst = 1.1`) Fast chain constant noise cut for `PI_RATIO`
 - (`fastsig = 1200.0`) Fast chain noise cut for `PI_RATIO` in eV
 - (`fastquart = 0`) Fast chain quartic gain error
- (`filtexpr = EVENT_FLAGS=bx1x000`) Remove all UNDERSHOOT, OVERSHOOT, and FORCED TRIGGER events. Also remove all FAST-ONLY events, so all events will have triggered the slow chain.

and GTIs are made (using `nimaketime`) according to these criteria:

- (`nicersaafilt = YES`) NICER SAA is excluded.
- (`saafilt = NO`) Generic SAA exclusion filter is not applied
- (`trackfilt = YES`) Exclude times of bad tracking
- (`ang_dist = 0.015`) Maximum angular distance from target (deg)
- (`elv = 30`) Minimum elevation above earth limb (deg)
- (`br_earth = 40`) Minimum elevation above bright earth limb (deg)
- (`cor_range = *.*`) No cut on cut-off rigidity
- (`min_fpm = 38`) Minimum number of enabled detectors