

**NAME**

fits-dump-hdr - dump FITS keywords

**SYNTAX**

fits-dump-hdr *options filename*

**DESCRIPTION**

**fits-dump-hdr** reads a header from a FITS file and outputs it in a variety of formats.

**OPTIONS AND ARGUMENTS**

Options are specified using a getopt style interface. Long names are available when preceded with double hyphens "--", in which case only the minimal number of characters are required. Options which take values may be separated from those values with the "=" character.

--fmt *format*

The output format. Run

```
fits-dump-hdr --fmt=list
```

to list the available formats. If no format is given, and a filename is specified with --output, the filename extension is used to determine the output format.

--ext|-e *extension*

The extension to dump, either an integer or an extension name.

--key|-k *spec*

Specify a keyword pattern or filter. This option may be repeated, and allows one to build up a complex set of filters.

**fits-dump-hdr** process the --key options in sequence, building up a list of header keywords. Specifying a pattern adds it to the list. Filters are used to remove items from the list.

If the first --key option specifies a filter, the list is initialized with all of the possible header keywords. Otherwise, keywords are added by specifying keyword patterns.

A pattern may have one of the following forms:

*keyword*

The exact name of the keyword. Case is not significant.

```
-k tstart -k TSTOP
```

*glob*

A wildcard expression (also known as a glob) as used by shells.

```
-k 'tst*'
```

*/regular expression*

A Perl regular expression.

```
-k '/tst.*'
```

A filter is a pattern which begins with a - or +. If -, items which match the pattern are removed. If a +, items which match the pattern are kept (all others are removed).

Keywords are case insensitive. By default all interesting keywords are shown. See also

---

```
--show-uninteresting.
```

```
--define|-D key=value key.attr=value
```

Add extra fields to output streams supporting named fields (e.g. `rdb`, `json`, `yaml`). This may be repeated.

If *attr* is specified, it is passed on the formatter as is. See the formatter documentation for more information.

```
--show-uninteresting | -U
```

By default "uninteresting" (i.e. `COMMENT` and `HISTORY`) keywords are not output if the output keyword list is initially populated with all of the keywords in the FITS header. Specifying this option enables output of these keywords.

```
--lc
```

Lower-case the keyword names upon output.

```
--pfx string
```

A string with which to prefix output keywords.

```
--output|-o output file
```

Where to write the output. By default it is written to the standard output stream.

If the file name contains a `%` it is assumed to be a `sprintf` compatible format and is used to create a new file for every HDU, with the zero-based HDU index as the formatted data. For example

```
foo_%0d.rdb
```

Would generate

```
foo_01.rdb foo_02.rdb ...
```

If `--fmt` is not specified, and `--output` is, the extension of the specified file is used to determine the output format.

```
--version
```

Output **fits-dump-hdr**'s version information and exit.

```
--help
```

Output abbreviated help information and exit.

```
--man
```

Output the full manual and exit.

## FORMATTER NOTES

### rdb

Attributes attached to extra fields specified by the `--define` option are interpreted as `rdb` column types (e.g. `N`, `S`). To insert an extra numeric field named `OBSID` into each record:

```
fits-dump-hdr -f rdb -D OBSID:N=22 ...
```

## AUTHORS

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