



Why is my level 2 event file larger than the one from the pipeline?

If you run `acis_process_events` on a level 2 event file, you will find that the output file is larger than the input file. This is because the `stdlev1` value for the `eventdef` parameter contains an entry for the PHAS column, which does not exist in the pipeline level 2 file (it is filtered out of the level 1 data products). The column is created by `acis_process_events` and filled with zeros.

There are three ways to deal with this:

1. Run `acis_process_events` with an explicit "level 2" `eventdef` parameter:

```
unix% pset acis_process_events \
        eventdef='{d:time,s:ccd_id,s:node_id,i:expno,s:chip,s:tdet,f:det,f:sky,l:pha,f:energ
```

2. Remove the PHAS column a posteriori from the output file:

```
unix% dmcop "acis_new_evt2.fits[cols -phas]" acis_new2_evt2.fits
```

where `acis_new_evt2.fits` is the output of `acis_process_events` run with `eventdef=")stdlev1"`.

3. Do nothing. The larger file size will not cause problems in the software (other than increasing runtime in some cases), so it is not required that you do anything about this feature.
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URL:
http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/faq/ape_filesize.html

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