

6.1.4 - TESSCut (API: with Astroquery).

This tutorial will show you how to create a cutout of TESS full frame images using the web-based TESSCut interface. We will be creating a cutout of the target TIC 261105201, using the search by coordinates option. This is a companion to the Python notebook that shows how to conduct a similar cutout request using Astroquery.

Step 1 - Visit The TESSCut Webpage: The first step is to visit the [TESSCut Web UI](#). Note you can specify a central coordinate in two ways: by entering a celestial coordinate or by entering a target name to resolve into coordinates. In this example, we will use the **Coordinates** resolver option by clicking on that button (Item #1). Note that you can enter a coordinate and hit the **Check for Observations** button to make sure the TESSCut UI understands your position before you ask for cutouts. (Item #2).

The screenshot shows the TESSCut MAST web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'TESSCut.MAST', 'Create Cutout', 'Quick Start', and 'Related Links'. Below this is a header with the TESSCut logo and the text 'FFI cutouts & sector information from MAST'. The main section is titled 'Create a Cutout'. It contains several form fields and buttons:

- Position:** A section with the instruction 'Supply the central coordinates or Target name.' It includes two buttons: 'Coordinates' (highlighted with a red arrow and labeled Item #1) and 'Target name'. There are also input fields for 'RA' and 'DEC', and a 'Check for Observations' button (highlighted with a red arrow and labeled Item #2).
- Cutout Size:** A section with the instruction 'Choose how large the final cutout image will be. A 20x20 pixel cutout is roughly 10Mb per sector.' It includes input fields for 'X (CCD column)' (value 10) and 'Y (CCD row)' (value 15), a 'Units' dropdown menu (set to 'pixels'), and a note: 'Maximum cutout area is 10,000 pixels (1 TESS pixel = ~ 21 arc seconds)'.
- Sectors:** A section with the instruction 'Select the sector wanted for cutout.' It includes a 'Sector' dropdown menu (set to 'All') and a 'Refresh Sectors' button. A note says: 'Click refresh for the option to choose a sector. Otherwise, all sectors will be selected.'
- Download FFI Cutout:** A large orange button at the bottom.
- Links:** At the bottom left, there are links for 'Get cURL Script' and 'Get URL'.

Step 2 - Specify Cutout Parameters And Download The Cutout(s): First we will enter the coordinates of our target (**05:31:18.576, -79:00:31.55**) in the Target box (Item #1). Note that several ways of specifying coordinates is allowed, including decimal degrees. Next we will specify the size of our cutout (Item #2). Note that you can specify the size in several units (Item #3), including pixels or arcseconds, but be careful that you have selected the units you want because there is a limit on how large of a cutout you can make! If your cutout spans multiple sectors, cameras, or CCDs you will get a separate cutout FITS file for each region as a zip file. If you know you only want cutouts from a specific Sector, you can specify that in the **Sectors** area (Item #4), otherwise the default is to cutout across all available Sectors. Once you have all the parameters of the cutout filled in, you can use the **Download FFI Cutout** button (Item #5) to initiate the request and download the zip file containing your cutouts. Note that if you'd like to see what your cutout request would look like as a cURL command or URL request, perhaps to use and modify in the future, you can use the **Get cURL Script** and **Get URL** links below to see the corresponding calls that would result in the same cutout you asked for using the browser.

TESScut.MAST

Create Cutout

Quick Start

Related Links

TESScut

FFI cutouts & sector information from MAST

Create a Cutout

Make a cutout of a TESS FFI time series for a region of the sky.
You can download the entire set of FFI files from the [TESS FFI Download Scripts Homepage](#). [Learn more](#) about manipulating these files.

Position

Supply the central coordinates or Target name.

Coordinates

Target name

RA

05:31:18.576

DEC

-79:00:31.55

Check for Observations

Cutout Size

Choose how large the final cutout image will be. A 20x20 pixel cutout is roughly 10Mb per sector.

X (CCD column)

20

Y (CCD row)

20

Units

pixels

Maximum cutout area is 10,000 pixels
(1 TESS pixel = ~ 21 arc seconds)

Sectors

Select the sector wanted for cutout.

Sector

All

Refresh Sectors

Click refresh for the option to choose a sector.
Otherwise, all sectors will be selected.

Download FFI Cutout

Get cURL Script

Get URL

Step 3 - Understanding How The Check For Observations And Refresh Sectors Buttons Work: If you would like to make sure your coordinates are being interpreted correctly before you ask for cutouts, you can hit the **Check for Observations** button (Item #1). This will return in the circled text area the position the UI thinks you are asking for. Similarly, if you would like to see what Sectors, cameras, and CCDs contain data for your coordinate or target, you can hit the **Refresh Sectors** (Item #2) button once you've entered a coordinate or target name. This will run a query to determine what data are available in the circled text area. You can use this to check for available data before you ask for cutouts.

TESScut.MAST

Create Cutout

Quick Start

Related Links

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Position

Supply the central coordinates or Target name.

Coordinates

Target name

RA

05:31:18.576

DEC

-79:00:31.55

Check for Observations

Cutout Size

Choose how large the final cutout image will be. A 20x20 pixel cutout is roughly 10Mb per sector.

X (CCD column)

20

Y (CCD row)

20

Units

pixels

Maximum cutout area is 10,000 pixels
(1 TESS pixel = ~ 21 arc seconds)

Sectors

Select the sector wanted for cutout.

Sector

All

Refresh Sectors

Click refresh for the option to choose a sector.
Otherwise, all sectors will be selected.

Download FFI Cutout

Get cURL Script

Get URL

Position Resolved: Equatorial Coord 05:31:18.576 -79:00:31.55 J2000 RA: 82.8274, DEC: -79.0087638888889

Retrieved Sectors: Sector 1 Camera 4 CCD 2, Sector 2 Camera 4 CCD 2. Sectors dropdown has been updated..