AuroraX, aurorax-api, and aurorax-asilib: a user-friendly auroral all-sky imager analysis framework

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Key Points:

- AuroraX is an online interface to visualize the aurora and calculate conjunctions
- aurorax-asilib is a companion Python package for detailed analysis of auroral all-sky imager data
- Together, these tools enable the end-to-end analysis of the aurora

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Abstract

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Plain Language Summary

1 Introduction

OUTLINE

- Brief history of ASIs and ASI arrays. Talk about why THEMIS ASI exists. Discuss CANOPUS?
- Breadth of possible science questions that can be answered with aurora image data.
- Problem: modern ASI arrays produce an immense volume of data.
- Why this software? Aurora ASI data formats very greatly, each with their own caveats. This centralized software package is maintained by the AuroraX team.
- Benefits: Maintained by the AuroraX team so it's usability is of paramount importance
- Reduce the barrier to entry into auroral physics. Reduce the technical requirements and enable rapid discovery of new science.
- Instead of case study results, larger statistical behavior will likely appear.
- remove the need for scientists needing to write duplicate code to use these popular missions. AS a result, this will enable scientists to dive right into the science and not need to know the details of data management (downloading and loading data, as well as applying routine data processing steps

2 Design Philosophy (Principals?)

OUTLINE

- The primary design philosophy is to offer a robust set of functions that are useful for most researchers studying the aurora. We strived to strike a balance between complicated and user-friendly tools.
- Online keogram and conjunction interface accessible anywhere with internet connection.
- Comprehensive ASI data analysis functionality on a PC.
- Abstract away data management steps: downloading data, loading data, applying routine data processing steps, and common visualizations.

3 AuroraX

OUTLINE

- What is it?
- A highly optimized conjunction search
- On-demand keograms
- Virtual Observatory
- pyaurorax (aurorax-api) to directly access AuroraX services.
- Figure 1: a) a screenshot of the nightly keograms, b) screenshot of the conjunction search tool.

4 aurorax-asilib

OUTLINE

- What is it?
- Plug-in based architecture that allows new ASI arrays to be added and called by the core aurorax-asilib software.

4.1 Download and load ASI image and skymap data

OUTLINE

- Handles the downloading and loading of ASI images. Main design principle: Ultimately, ASI image files consists of time stamps and images, so the asilib functions really only need to return that data
- Similarly with skymap calibration files
- If a file is already downloaded, you do not need an internet connection to work with the data

4.2 Plotting single images

OUTLINE

- Fisheye lens view
- Project onto a geographic map
- Figure 2: a) fisheye view, b) that fisheye view mapped to 110 km. (THEMIS)

4.3 Keograms

OUTLINE

- Keograms along the meridian
- Uses generators to minimize the RAM usage
- Figure 3: A keogram for a full night. (REGO)

4.4 Creating ASI movies

OUTLINE

- Basic fisheye animation
- Basic map animation (need to add functionality)
- Using co-routines to superpose data onto images (extensively used for conjunctions).
- Reference SI movie 1.

4.5 ASI analysis tools

OUTLINE

- lla2azel
- lla2footprint (requires IRBEM)
- area2pixels

4.6 An example: a satellite-ASI conjunction

OUTLINE

- Combine everything above into an example showing where the footprint of a LEO satellite is, and what
- Figure 4: A conjunction montage and a time series
- (Implement an Imager.conjunction function)
- Reference movie S2

5 Quality Assurance

OUTLINE

- asilib on GitHub. unit and integration tests run automatically before every release.
- THEMIS and REGO data formats are set and won't change.

6 Conclusion

OUTLINE

- AuroraX, aurorax-api, and aurorax-asilib tools provide the science community with a simple and a robust set of analysis tools
- Enable system-level science to be easily done
- Quickly sift through an immense volume of data to uncover new physics
- This is an end-to-end solution
- Plan to add support for other ASI arrays and satellites
- Help promote a uniform ASI data format for future cameras

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