EinsteinPy: Python for General Relativity[*]

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents EinsteinPy (version 0.2), a community-developed Python package for gravitational and relativistic astrophysics. Python is a free, easy to use high level programming language which has seen a huge expansion in the number of its users and developers in recent years. Specifically, a lot of recent studies show that the use of Python in Astrophysics and in general physics has increased exponentially. Many great frameworks came as Python packages which provide a very high level of abstraction over the dirty nitty-gritty of complex algorithms and provide an easy to use interfaceand pleasing user experience. One such example is Keras - framework for deep learning which has made deep learning so easy that a person with zero programming knowledge can also train a neural network classifier. This example really demonstrates the power of abstraction which is achievable in Python. The aim of the EinsteinPy is no different and is developed keeping in mind the state of a theoretical gravitational physicist with a little or no background in computer programming and trying to work in the field of numerical relativity or trying to use simulations in their research. Currently EinsteinPy supports simulation of time-like and null geodesics and calculate trajectories in different background geometries some of which are Schwarzschild, Kerr and KerrNewmann along with coordinate inter-conversion pipeline. It has a partially developed pipeline for plotting and visualization with dependencies on libraries like plotly, matplotlib etc. One of the unique feature of EinsteinPy is a sufficiently developed symbolic tensor manipulation utilites which is a great tool in itself for teaching yourself tensor algebra which for many beginner students can be overwhelmingly tricky. Currently EinsteinPy also provide few utility functions for hypersurface embedding of Schwarzschild spacetime which further will be extended to model gravitational lensing simulation. The current version of the library is in a state that can be used by any serious student of general relativity trying to get essence of this beautiful subject but is somewhere lost in the heavy mathematical formalism of the subject. EinsteinPy provides such students to really see through the equations and visualize whats really happening.

Keywords: gravitational physics, astrophysics — simulations — black holes — gravitational waves

1. INTRODUCTION

It was the time of 1915 when Einstein published his paper on general theory of relativity which proposed a elegant and rigorous framework for a relativistic theory of gravity and was generalized version of gravity free theory - special relativity which he published earlier in 1905 and since then the whole physics community was against the bold ideas of the young genius and resisted in the beginning because all people were worried that if these hypothesis true would then completely change our notion of how we percieve space and time. But sooner they started to realize the true depth in the formalism of general relativity and its ability to explain the fundamental laws of nature. After so many years its well established now that general theory of relativity is the "theory of gravity" in classical regime and all the attempts to formulate quantum theory of gravity one way or the other borrow ideas from GR. The central problem then and now remains to be the solutions of the Einstein's field equation. Many times we can study the behaviour of solutions under high degree of symmetry considerations and could even solve analytically for highly unrealistic systems but solving it for problems relevant to astrophysical and gravitational physics research it still remains a big question on how to get around the problem of solving these field equations. This question is so profound that it has a separate research field which goes with the name of numerical relativity which attempts to use computer programmes to numerically obtain solutions of the equations (which would be the background geometry) for some turbulent region where most of the interesting dynamics is happening (as we can not solve for a infinitely large grid due to restrictions imposed on us by space and time complexity and computability).

The interest of the community grew when the field found applications in areas of radio astronomy, cosmology, signal processing, data mining. After so many years the field of numerical relativity has grown up to be a mature research area with vast literature on algorithms, numerical methods and theoretical formulations (from basic 3+1 decomposition formulation to more sophisticated ones). Currently there exist some very robust and involved frameworks that provide a complete programming ecosystem and have proved to an be essential tools for any numerical relativity researcher. Now on the other end of the research community are the theoretical physicists many of which have little or no programming experience and is really challenged by the fact that the usage of these frameworks demand heavy use of high level programming languages like C and C++. As described above Python provides a vast room for abstractions and no library existed at that time that do numerical relativity in Python and hence the team was hooked by this very fact of need for a python library on general relativity. Since then EinsteinPy has seen a lot of contributions from people all over the world and many "good to go" functionalities are already provided in this and previous versions. Like any other numerical relativity library EinsteinPy is made to provide a set of tools which can make numerical computations for solving Einstein's field equations an easy job for anyone who does not want to dive deep into the nitty gitties of the subject along with few very basic but powerful functionalities that could be used by anyone who wants to learn the subject of general relativity in general[1]. In further coming section we discuss with some of the features of the current as well previous version and the future plans which are yet to be implemented in the upcoming versions. Also we describe few code snippets to explain the usage of the library on which more details can be found on the organisation website[2]

2. UNITS HANDLING

EinsteinPy has dependencies on Astropy for handling units and user have to use appropiate Astropy units[3] while declaring the input data to various methods which are further used in computation.

3. DATA TYPES

The heart of abstraction that EinsteinPy aims to provide is achieved by some set of data structures that are specifically designed to ease with variety of gravitational physics problems. The most important and central quantity in all of the general relativity is the metric tensor $g_{\mu\nu}$ which defines the background geometry of spacetime on which all the dynamics happen. Informally the problem that packages of numerical relativity tend to solve is that we have a system (or matter field) defined by energy-momentum tensor $T_{\mu\nu}$ and we want to solve for the $g_{\mu\nu}$ such that it satifies the following Einstein's field equation

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$$

---

[1] More details on this are given in further coming sections

[2] https://einsteinpy.org/

[3] more on astropy units can be refered from their official website documentation

where $R_{\mu\nu}$ is contracted Riemannian tensor or Ricci tensor, R is Ricci scalar, Λ is cosmological constant. All the above quantities are derivatives of metric tensor[4] so in simple terms, on the left hand side of the equation are terms involving $g_{\mu\nu}$ and on the right hand side are the matter field terms which only characterize the distribution of matter. EinsteinPy provides a core module: `metric` which has core data types of various metric tensors some which includes Schwarzschild, Kerr, Kerr-Newman spacetime geometries(which are exact solution of field equation for very specific matter distributions). The immediate functionalities which comes along with this module is solution of geodesic equations. The module has coupled integration with `coordinates` module which deals with different coordinate system transformations[5]. Another core data types is in the `plotting` module which handles all the plotting, rendering, animation and simulation related methods and provides a user friendly interfacing of plots. One interesting feature of EinsteinPy is the support for symbolic tensor algebra which is extremly important in the formalism of general relativity and one of the first challenges faced by many beginners in their journey of learning the subject. EinsteinPy provides an excellent way to learn the math behind tensor manipulation and index gymnastics with the help of symbolic module: `symbolic`, on which more will be dicussed in its section ahead.

Following sections will give a breif overview of every core module and some of their important functionalities.

3.1. *tensor*

3.2. *metric*

`metric` module give users the freedom to define metric object which can be further used in the computations related to spacetime geometry. Let's see an small example of solving geodesic equation in Kerr spacetime and obtaining trajectories using EinsteinPy

3.3. *coordinates*

```
1   # importing modules
2   from astropy import units as u
3   import numpy as np
4   from einsteinpy.metric import Kerr
5   from einsteinpy.coordinates import BoyerLindquistDifferential
6
7   # initializing parameters and coordinate system
8   M = 1.989e30 * u.kg
9   a = 0.3 * u.m
10  BL_obj = BoyerLindquistDifferential(50e5 * u.km, np.pi / 2 * u.rad, np.pi * u.rad,
11                                      0 * u.km / u.s, 0 * u.rad / u.s, 0 * u.rad / u.s,
12                                      a)
13  end_lambda = ((1 * u.year).to(u.s)).value / 930
14
15  # Choosing stepsize for ODE solver to be 0.02 minutes
16  stepsize = ((0.02 * u.min).to(u.s)).value
17
18  # defining Kerr spacetime metric object
19  obj = Kerr.from_coords(BL_obj, M)
20
21  # calculates the trajectory
22  ans = obj.calculate_trajectory(
23      end_lambda=end_lambda, OdeMethodKwargs={"stepsize": stepsize}, return_cartesian=True
24  )
```

3.4. *plotting*

3.5. *symbolic*

---

[4] more on this can be refered from any standard general relativity text

[5] more on this in the 'coordinates' section

3.6. *hypersurface*

This module provides with basic computational functions which are essential for modelling the space-like hypersurface for any spacetime geometry. Currently module has implementation for Schwarzschild geometry with conversion functions from Schwarzschild coordinates to 3-D spherical coordinates and some plotting utilities. The whole module is expected to extend for providing a superclass for implementations related to gravitationl lensing simulations and numerical calculations of null geodesics on hypersurfaces and deviation angles for systems which are relevant to relativistic astrophysical problems. A small code snippet for plotting the hypersurface is as follows:

```python
# importing the modules
from einsteinpy.hypersurface import SchwarzschildEmbedding
from astropy import units as u

# Declaring embedding object with specified mass of the body
surface_obj = SchwarzschildEmbedding(5.927e23 * u.kg)
surface_obj.plot_hypersurface(plot_type='surface')

# plotting the embedding hypersurface for Schwarzschild spacetime
surface_obj.show()
```
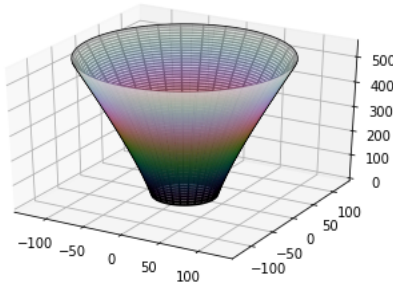

4. DISPLAYING MATHEMATICS

The most common mathematical symbols and formulas are in the amsmath package. AASTeX requires this package so there is no need to specifically call for it in the document preamble. Most modern LaTeX distributions already contain this package. If you do not have this package or the other required packages, revtex4-1, latexsym, graphicx, amssymb, longtable, and epsf, they can be obtained from http://www.ctan.org

Mathematics can be displayed either within the text, e.g. $E = mc^2$, or separate from in an equation. In order to be properly rendered, all inline math text has to be declared by surrounding the math by dollar signs ($).

A complex equation example with inline math as part of the explanation follows.

$$\bar{v}(p_2, \sigma_2)P_{-\tau}\hat{a}_1\hat{a}_2\cdots\hat{a}_n u(p_1, \sigma_1), \tag{1}$$

where p and σ label the initial $e^\pm$ four-momenta and helicities ($\sigma = \pm 1$), $\hat{a}_i = a_i^\mu \gamma_\nu$ and $P_\tau = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \tau\gamma_5)$ is a chirality projection operator ($\tau = \pm 1$). This produces a single line formula. LaTeX will auto-number this and any subsequent equations. If no number is desired then the `equation` call should be replaced with `displaymath`.

LaTeX can also handle a a multi-line equation. Use `eqnarray` for more than one line and end each line with a \\. Each line will be numbered unless the \\ is preceded by a `\nonumber` command. Alignment points can be added with ampersands (&). There should be two ampersands per line. In the examples they are centered on the equal symbol.

$$\gamma^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma_+^\mu \\ \sigma_-^\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \gamma^5 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{2}$$

$$\sigma_\pm^\mu = (\mathbf{1}, \pm\sigma), \tag{3}$$

$$\hat{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & (\hat{a})_+ \\ (\hat{a})_- & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$(\hat{a})_\pm = a_\mu \sigma_\pm^\mu \tag{4}$$

5. REVISION TRACKING AND COLOR HIGHLIGHTING

Authors sometimes use color to highlight changes to their manuscript in response to editor and referee comments. In AAST$_{\rm E}$X new commands have been introduced to make this easier and formalize the process.

The first method is through a new set of editing mark up commands that specifically identify what has been changed. These commands are \added{<text>}, \deleted{<text>}, and \replaced{<old text>}{<replaced text>}. To activate these commands the trackchanges option must be used in the \documentclass call. When compiled this will produce the marked text in red. The \explain{<text>} can be used to add text to provide information to the reader describing the change. Its output is purple italic font. To see how \added{<important added info>}, \deleted{<this can be deleted text>}, \replaced{<old data>}{<replaced data>}, and \explain{<text explaining the change>} commands will produce important added information and replaced data, toggle between versions compiled with and without the trackchanges option.

A summary list of all these tracking commands can be produced at the end of the article by adding the \listofchanges just before the \end{document} call. The page number for each change will be provided. If the linenumbers option is also included in the documentcall call then not only will all the lines in the article be numbered for handy reference but the summary list will also include the line number for each change.

The second method does not have the ability to highlight the specific nature of the changes but does allow the author to document changes over multiple revisions. The commands are \edit1{<text>}, \edit2{<text>} and \edit3{<text>} and they produce <text> that is highlighted in bold red, italic blue and underlined purple, respectively. Authors should use the first command to **indicated which text has been changed from the first revision.** The second command is to highlight *new or modified text from a second revision.* If a third revision is needed then the last command should be used to show this changed text. Since over 90% of all manuscripts are accepted after the 3rd revision these commands make it easy to identify what text has been added and when. Once the article is accepted all the highlight color can be turned off simply by adding the \turnoffediting command in the preamble. Likewise, the new commands \turnoffeditone, \turnoffedittwo, and \turnoffeditthree can be used to only turn off the \edit1{<text>}, \edit2{<text>} and \edit3{<text>}, respectively.

Similar to marking editing changes with the \edit options there are also the \authorcomments1{<text>}, \authorcomments2{<text>} and \authorcomments3{<text>} commands. These produce the same bold red, italic blue and underlined purple text but when the \turnoffediting command is present the <text> material does not appear in the manuscript. Authors can use these commands to mark up text that they are not sure should appear in the final manuscript or as a way to communicate comments between co-authors when writing the article.

6. SOFTWARE AND THIRD PARTY DATA REPOSITORY CITATIONS

The AAS Journals would like to encourage authors to change software and third party data repository references from the current standard of a footnote to a first class citation in the bibliography. As a bibliographic citation these important references will be more easily captured and credit will be given to the appropriate people.

The first step to making this happen is to have the data or software in a long term repository that has made these items available via a persistent identifier like a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). A list of repositories that satisfy this criteria plus each one's pros and cons are given at https://github.com/AASJournals/Tutorials/tree/master/Repositories.

In the bibliography the format for data or code follows this format:

author year, title, version, publisher, prefix:identifier

Corrales (2015) provides a example of how the citation in the article references the external code at https://doi.org/10.5281/zenod Unfortunately, bibtex does not have specific bibtex entries for these types of references so the "@misc" type should be used. The Repository tutorial explains how to code the "@misc" type correctly. The most recent aasjournal.bst file, available with AAST$_{\rm E}$X v6, will output bibtex "@misc" type properly.

Facilities: HST(STIS), Swift(XRT and UVOT), AAVSO, CTIO:1.3m, CTIO:1.5m,CXO

Software: astropy (Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013), Cloudy (Ferland et al. 2013), SExtractor (Bertin & Arnouts 1996)

APPENDIX

A. APPENDIX INFORMATION

Appendices can be broken into separate sections just like in the main text. The only difference is that each appendix section is indexed by a letter (A, B, C, etc.) instead of a number. Likewise numbered equations have the section letter appended. Here is an equation as an example.

$$I = \frac{1}{1 + d_1^{P(1+d_2)}} \tag{A1}$$

Appendix tables and figures should not be numbered like equations. Instead they should continue the sequence from the main article body.

B. AUTHOR PUBLICATION CHARGES

Finally some information about the AAS Journal's publication charges. In April 2011 the traditional way of calculating author charges based on the number of printed pages was changed. The reason for the change was due to a recognition of the growing number of article items that could not be represented in print. Now author charges are determined by a number of digital "quanta". A single quantum is 350 words, one figure, one table, and one enhanced digital item. For the latter this includes machine readable tables, figure sets, animations, and interactive figures. The current cost is $27 per word quantum and $30 for all other quantum type.

C. ROTATING TABLES

The process of rotating tables into landscape mode is slightly different in AASTeXv6.2. Instead of the `\rotate` command, a new environment has been created to handle this task. To place a single page table in a landscape mode start the table portion with `\begin{rotatetable}` and end with `\end{rotatetable}`.

Tables that exceed a print page take a slightly different environment since both rotation and long table printing are required. In these cases start with `\begin{longrotatetable}` and end with `\end{longrotatetable}`. Table 1 is an example of a multi-page, rotated table.

Table 1. Observable Characteristics of Galactic/Magellanic Cloud novae with X-ray observations

Name	V_{max} (mag)	Date (JD)	t_2 (d)	FWHM (km s^{-1})	E(B-V) (mag)	N_H (cm^{-2})	Period (d)	D (kpc)	Dust?	RN?
CI Aql	8.83 (1)	2451665.5 (1)	32 (2)	2300 (3)	0.8±0.2 (4)	1.2e+22	0.62 (4)	6.25±5 (4)	N	Y
CSS081007	...	2454596.5	...	...	0.146	1.1e+21	1.77 (5)	4.45±1.95 (6)	...	...
GQ Mus	7.2 (7)	2445352.5 (7)	18 (7)	1000 (8)	0.45 (9)	3.8e+21	0.059375 (10)	4.8±1 (9)	N (7)	...
IM Nor	7.84 (11)	2452289 (2)	50 (2)	1150 (12)	0.8±0.2 (4)	8e+21	0.102 (13)	4.25±3.4 (4)	N	Y
KT Eri	5.42 (14)	2455150.17 (14)	6.6 (14)	3000 (15)	0.08 (15)	5.5e+20	...	6.5 (15)	N	M
LMC 1995	10.7 (16)	2449778.5 (16)	15±2 (17)	...	0.15 (203)	7.8e+20	...	50	...	...
LMC 2000	11.45 (18)	2451737.5 (18)	9±2 (19)	1700 (20)	0.15 (203)	7.8e+20	...	50	...	...
LMC 2005	11.5 (21)	2453700.5 (21)	63 (22)	900 (23)	0.15 (203)	1e+21	...	50	M (24)	...
LMC 2009a	10.6 (25)	2454867.5 (25)	4±1	3900 (25)	0.15 (203)	5.7e+20	1.19 (26)	50	N	Y
SMC 2005	10.4 (27)	2453588.5 (27)	...	3200 (28)	...	5e+20	...	61	...	...
QY Mus	8.1 (29)	2454739.90 (29)	60:	...	0.71 (30)	4.2e+21	...	...	M	...
RS Oph	4.5 (31)	2453779.44 (14)	7.9 (14)	3930 (31)	0.73 (32)	2.25e+21	456 (33)	1.6±0.3 (33)	N (34)	Y
U Sco	8.05 (35)	2455224.94 (35)	1.2 (36)	7600 (37)	0.2±0.1 (4)	1.2e+21	1.23056 (36)	12±2 (4)	N	Y
V1047 Cen	8.5 (38)	2453614.5 (39)	6 (40)	840 (38)	...	1.4e+22	...	...	...	...
V1065 Cen	8.2 (41)	2454123.5 (41)	11 (42)	2700 (43)	0.5±0.1 (42)	3.75e+21	...	9.05±2.8 (42)	Y (42)	...
V1187 Sco	7.4 (44)	2453220.5 (44)	7: (45)	3000 (44)	1.56 (44)	8.0e+21	...	4.9±0.5 (44)	N	...
V1188 Sco	8.7 (46)	2453577.5 (46)	7 (40)	1730 (47)	...	5.0e+21	...	7.5 (39)	...	...
V1213 Cen	8.53 (48)	2454959.5 (48)	11±2 (49)	2300 (50)	2.07 (30)	1.0e+22	...	...	...	...
V1280 Sco	3.79 (51)	2454147.65 (14)	21 (52)	640 (53)	0.36 (54)	1.6e+21	...	1.6±0.4 (54)	Y (54)	...
V1281 Sco	8.8 (55)	2454152.21 (55)	15:	1800 (56)	0.7 (57)	3.2e+21	...	...	N	...
V1309 Sco	7.1 (58)	2454714.5 (58)	23±2 (59)	670 (60)	1.2 (30)	4.0e+21	...	...	...	...
V1494 Aql	3.8 (61)	2451515.5 (61)	6.6±0.5 (61)	1200 (62)	0.6 (63)	3.6e+21	0.13467 (64)	1.6±0.1 (63)	N	...
V1663 Aql	10.5 (65)	2453531.5 (65)	17 (66)	1900 (67)	2: (68)	1.6e+22	...	8.9±3.6 (69)	N	...
V1974 Cyg	4.3 (70)	2448654.5 (70)	17 (71)	2000 (19)	0.36±0.04 (71)	2.7e+21	0.081263 (70)	1.8±0.1 (72)	N	...
V2361 Cyg	9.3 (73)	2453412.5 (73)	6 (40)	3200 (74)	1.2: (75)	7.0e+21	...	...	Y (40)	...
V2362 Cyg	7.8 (76)	2453831.5 (76)	9 (77)	1850 (78)	0.575±0.015 (79)	4.4e+21	0.06577 (80)	7.75±3 (77)	Y (81)	...
V2467 Cyg	6.7 (82)	2454176.27 (82)	7 (83)	950 (82)	1.5 (84)	1.4e+22	0.159 (85)	3.1±0.5 (86)	M (87)	...
V2468 Cyg	7.4 (88)	2454534.2 (88)	10:	1000 (88)	0.77 (89)	1.0e+22	0.242 (90)	...	N	...
V2491 Cyg	7.54 (91)	2454567.86 (91)	4.6 (92)	4860 (93)	0.43 (94)	4.7e+21	0.09580: (95)	10.5 (96)	N	M
V2487 Oph	9.5 (97)	2450979.5 (97)	6.3 (98)	10000 (98)	0.38±0.08 (98)	2.0e+21	...	27.5±3 (99)	N (100)	Y (101)
V2540 Oph	8.5 (102)	2452295.5 (102)	...	...	...	2.3e+21	0.284781 (103)	5.2±0.8 (103)	N	...
V2575 Oph	11.1 (104)	2453778.8 (104)	20:	560 (104)	1.4 (105)	3.3e+21	...	...	N (105)	...
V2576 Oph	9.2 (106)	2453832.5 (106)	8:	1470 (106)	0.25 (107)	2.6e+21	...	...	N	...
V2615 Oph	8.52 (108)	2454187.5 (108)	26.5 (108)	800 (109)	0.9 (108)	3.1e+21	...	3.7±0.2 (108)	Y (110)	...
V2670 Oph	9.9 (111)	2454613.11 (111)	15:	600 (112)	1.3: (113)	2.9e+21	...	...	N (114)	...
V2671 Oph	11.1 (115)	2454617.5 (115)	8:	1210 (116)	2.0 (117)	3.3e+21	...	...	M (117)	...

Table 1 (*continued*)

Name	V_{max}	Date	t_2	FWHM	E(B-V)	N_H	Period	D	Dust?	RN?
	(mag)	(JD)	(d)	(km s^{-1})	(mag)	(cm^{-2})	(d)	(kpc)		
V2672 Oph	10.0 (118)	2455060.02 (118)	2.3 (119)	8000 (118)	1.6±0.1 (119)	4.0e+21	...	19±2 (119)	...	M
V351 Pup	6.5 (120)	2448617.5 (120)	16 (121)	...	0.72±0.1 (122)	6.2e+21	0.1182 (123)	2.7±0.7 (122)	N	...
V382 Nor	8.9 (124)	2453447.5 (124)	12 (40)	1850 (23)	...	1.7e+22	...	...	...	...
V382 Vel	2.85 (125)	2451320.5 (125)	4.5 (126)	2400 (126)	0.05: (126)	3.4e+21	0.146126 (127)	1.68±0.3 (126)	N	...
V407 Cyg	6.8 (128)	2455266.314 (128)	5.9 (129)	2760 (129)	0.5±0.05 (130)	8.8e+21	15595 (131)	2.7 (131)	...	Y
V458 Vul	8.24 (132)	2454322.39 (132)	7 (133)	1750 (134)	0.6 (135)	3.6e+21	0.06812255 (136)	8.5±1.8 (133)	N (135)	...
V459 Vul	7.57 (137)	2454461.5 (137)	18 (138)	910 (139)	1.0 (140)	5.5e+21	...	3.65±1.35 (138)	Y (140)	...
V4633 Sgr	7.8 (141)	2450895.5 (141)	19±3 (142)	1700 (143)	0.21 (142)	1.4e+21	0.125576 (144)	8.9±2.5 (142)	N	...
V4643 Sgr	8.07 (145)	2451965.867 (145)	4.8 (146)	4700 (147)	1.67 (148)	1.4e+22	...	3 (148)	N	...
V4743 Sgr	5.0 (149)	2452537.5 (149)	9 (150)	2400 (149)	0.25 (151)	1.2e+21	0.281 (152)	3.9±0.3 (151)	N	...
V4745 Sgr	7.41 (153)	2452747.5 (153)	8.6 (154)	1600 (155)	0.1 (154)	9.0e+20	0.20782 (156)	14±5 (154)	...	...
V476 Sct	10.3 (157)	2453643.5 (157)	15 (158)	...	1.9 (158)	1.2e+22	...	4±1 (158)	M (159)	...
V477 Sct	9.8 (160)	2453655.5 (160)	3 (160)	2900 (161)	1.2: (162)	4e+21	...	...	M (163)	...
V5114 Sgr	8.38 (164)	2453081.5 (164)	11 (165)	2000 (23)	...	1.5e+21	...	7.7±0.7 (165)	N (166)	...
V5115 Sgr	7.7 (167)	2453459.5 (167)	7 (40)	1300 (168)	0.53 (169)	2.3e+21	...	...	N (169)	...
V5116 Sgr	8.15 (170)	2453556.91 (170)	6.5 (171)	970 (172)	0.25 (173)	1.5e+21	0.1238 (171)	11±3 (173)	N (174)	...
V5558 Sgr	6.53 (175)	2454291.5 (175)	125 (176)	1000 (177)	0.80 (178)	1.6e+22	...	1.3±0.3 (176)	N (179)	...
V5579 Sgr	5.56 (180)	2454579.62 (180)	7:	1500 (23)	1.2 (181)	3.3e+21	...	...	Y (181)	...
V5583 Sgr	7.43 (182)	2455051.07 (182)	5:	2300 (182)	0.39 (30)	2.0e+21	...	10.5	...	...
V574 Pup	6.93 (183)	2453332.22 (183)	13 (184)	2800 (184)	0.5±0.1	6.2e+21	...	6.5±1	M (185)	...
V597 Pup	7.0 (186)	2454418.75 (186)	3:	1800 (187)	0.3 (188)	5.0e+21	0.11119 (189)	...	N (188)	...
V598 Pup	3.46 (14)	2454257.79 (14)	9±1 (190)	...	0.16 (190)	1.4e+21	...	2.95±0.8 (190)	...	...
V679 Car	7.55 (191)	2454797.77 (191)	20:	...	...	1.3e+22	...	...	...	...
V723 Cas	7.1 (192)	2450069.0 (192)	263 (2)	600 (193)	0.5 (194)	2.35e+21	0.69 (195)	3.86±0.23 (196)	N	...
V838 Her	5 (197)	2448340.5 (197)	2 (198)	...	0.5±0.1 (198)	2.6e+21	0.2975 (199)	3±1 (198)	Y (200)	...
XMMSL1 J06	12 (201)	2453643.5 (202)	8±2 (202)	...	0.15 (203)	8.7e+20	...	50	...	...

A handy "cheat sheat" that provides the necessary LaTeX to produce 17 different types of tables is available at http://journals.aas.org/authors/aastex/aasguide.html#table_cheat_sheet.

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