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# Armageddon

unknown

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**SYNOPSIS:**

Asteroids entering Earth's atmosphere are subject to extreme drag forces that decelerate, heat and disrupt the space rocks. The fate of an asteroid is a complex function of its initial mass, speed, trajectory angle and internal strength.

Asteroids 10-100 m in diameter can penetrate deep into Earth's atmosphere and disrupt catastrophically, generating an atmospheric disturbance (airburst) that can cause damage on the ground. Such an event occurred over the city of Chelyabinsk in Russia, in 2013, releasing energy equivalent to about 520 kilotons of TNT (1 kt TNT is equivalent to  $4.184 \times 10^{12}$  J), and injuring thousands of people (Popova et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2013). An even larger event occurred over Tunguska, a relatively unpopulated area in Siberia, in 1908.

This simulator predicts the fate of asteroids entering Earth's atmosphere, and provides a hazard mapper for an impact over the UK.



## PROBLEM DEFINITION

### 2.1 Equations of motion for a rigid asteroid

The dynamics of an asteroid in Earth's atmosphere prior to break-up is governed by a coupled set of ordinary differ-

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dv}{dt} &= \frac{-C_D \rho_a A v^2}{2m} + g \sin \theta \\ \frac{dm}{dt} &= \frac{-C_H \rho_a A v^3}{2Q} \\ \text{ential equations: } \frac{d\theta}{dt} &= \frac{g \cos \theta}{v} - \frac{C_L \rho_a A v}{2m} - \frac{v \cos \theta}{R_P + z} \\ \frac{dz}{dt} &= -v \sin \theta \\ \frac{dx}{dt} &= \frac{v \cos \theta}{1 + z/R_P} \end{aligned}$$

In these equations,  $v$ ,  $m$ , and  $A$  are the asteroid speed (along trajectory), mass and cross-sectional area, respectively. We will assume an initially **spherical asteroid** to convert from initial radius to mass (and cross-sectional area).  $\theta$  is the meteoroid trajectory angle to the horizontal (in radians),  $x$  is the downrange distance of the meteoroid from its entry position,  $z$  is the altitude and  $t$  is time;  $C_D$  is the drag coefficient,  $\rho_a$  is the atmospheric density (a function of altitude),  $C_H$  is an ablation efficiency coefficient,  $Q$  is the specific heat of ablation;  $C_L$  is a lift coefficient; and  $R_P$  is the planetary radius. All terms use MKS units.

### 2.2 Asteroid break-up and deformation

A commonly used criterion for the break-up of an asteroid in the atmosphere is when the ram pressure of the air interacting with the asteroid  $\rho_a v^2$  first exceeds the strength of the asteroid  $Y$ .

$$\rho_a v^2 = Y$$

Should break-up occur, the asteroid deforms and spreads laterally as it continues its passage through the atmosphere. Several models for the spreading rate have been proposed. In the simplest model, the fragmented asteroid's spreading rate is related to its along trajectory speed (Hills and Goda, 1993):

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \left[ \frac{7}{2} \alpha \frac{\rho_a}{\rho_m} \right]^{1/2} v$$

Where  $r$  is the asteroid radius,  $\rho_m$  is the asteroid density (assumed constant) and  $\alpha$  is a spreading coefficient, often taken to be 0.3. It is conventional to define the cross-sectional area of the expanding cloud of fragments as  $A = \pi r^2$  (i.e., assuming a circular cross-section), for use in the above equations. Fragmentation and spreading **ceases** when the ram pressure drops back below the strength of the meteoroid  $\rho_a v^2 < Y$ .

## 2.3 Airblast damage

The rapid deposition of energy in the atmosphere is analogous to an explosion and so the environmental consequences of the airburst can be estimated using empirical data from atmospheric explosion experiments (Glasstone and Dolan, 1977).

The main cause of damage close to the impact site is a strong (pressure) blastwave in the air, known as the **airblast**. Empirical data suggest that the pressure in this wave  $p$  (in Pa) (above ambient, also known as overpressure), as a function of explosion energy  $E_k$  (in kilotons of TNT equivalent), burst altitude  $z_b$  (in m) and horizontal range  $r$  (in m), is given by:

$$p(r) = 3.14 \times 10^{11} \left( \frac{r^2 + z_b^2}{E_k^{2/3}} \right)^{-1.3} + 1.8 \times 10^7 \left( \frac{r^2 + z_b^2}{E_k^{2/3}} \right)^{-0.565}$$

For airbursts, we will take the total kinetic energy lost by the asteroid at the burst altitude as the burst energy  $E_k$ . For cratering events, we will define  $E_k$  as the **larger** of the total kinetic energy lost by the asteroid at the burst altitude or the residual kinetic energy of the asteroid when it hits the ground.

The following threshold pressures can then be used to define different degrees of damage.

| Damage Level | Description                         | Pressure (kPa) |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1            | ~10% glass windows shatter          | 1.0            |
| 2            | ~90% glass windows shatter          | 3.5            |
| 3            | Wood frame buildings collapse       | 27             |
| 4            | Multistory brick buildings collapse | 43             |

Table 1: Pressure thresholds (in kPa) for airblast damage

## 2.4 Additional sections

You should expand this documentation to include explanatory text for all components of your tool.



## FUNCTION API

Module dealing with postcode information.

```
class locator.PostcodeLocator(postcode_file='resources/full_postcodes.csv',  
                               census_file='resources/population_by_postcode_sector.csv', norm=<function  
                               great_circle_distance>)
```

Class to interact with a postcode database file.

### Parameters

- **postcode\_file** (*str*, *optional*) – Filename of a .csv file containing geographic location data for postcodes.
- **census\_file** (*str*, *optional*) – Filename of a .csv file containing census data by postcode sector.
- **norm** (*function*) – Python function defining the distance between points in latitude-longitude space.

```
get_population_of_postcode(postcodes, sector=False)
```

Return populations of a list of postcode units or sectors.

### Parameters

- **postcodes** (*list of lists*) – list of postcode units or postcode sectors
- **sector** (*bool*, *optional*) – if true return populations for postcode sectors, otherwise returns populations for postcode units

### Returns

Contains the populations of input postcode units or sectors

### Return type

list of lists

## Examples

```
>>> locator = PostcodeLocator('resources/full_postcodes.csv', 'resources/  
↳ population_by_postcode_sector.csv')  
>>> pop1 = locator.get_population_of_postcode([[ 'SW7 2AZ', 'SW7 2BT', 'SW7 2BU',  
↳ 'SW7 2DD' ]])  
>>> pop1  
[[19, 19, 19, 19]]  
>>> pop2 = locator.get_population_of_postcode([[ 'SW7 2' ]], True)  
>>> pop2  
[[2283]]
```

**get\_postcodes\_by\_radius**(*X*, *radii*, *sector=False*)

Return (unit or sector) postcodes within specific distances of input location.

**Parameters**

- **X** (*arraylike*) – Latitude-longitude pair of centre location
- **radii** (*arraylike*) – array of radial distances from X
- **sector** (*bool*, *optional*) – if true return postcode sectors, otherwise postcode units

**Returns**

Contains the lists of postcodes closer than the elements of radii to the location X.

**Return type**

list of lists

**Examples**

```
>>> locator = PostcodeLocator('resources/full_postcodes.csv', 'resources/
↳ population_by_postcode_sector.csv')
>>> postcodes = locator.get_postcodes_by_radius((51.4981, -0.1773), [0.13e3])
>>> postcode_dictionaries = [dict.fromkeys(postcodes[i], "risk") for i in
↳ range(len(postcodes))]
>>> ans1 = [{'SW7 5HG': 'risk', 'SW7 2BU': 'risk', 'SW7 5HQ': 'risk',
↳ 'SW7 2BT': 'risk', 'SW7 5HF': 'risk', 'SW7 2DD': 'risk',
↳ 'SW7 2AZ': 'risk'}]
>>> postcode_dictionaries == ans1
True
>>> postcodes = locator.get_postcodes_by_radius((51.4981, -0.1773), [0.4e3, 0.
↳ 2e3], True)
>>> postcode_dictionaries = [dict.fromkeys(postcodes[i], "risk") for i in
↳ range(len(postcodes))]
>>> ans2 = [{'SW7 4': 'risk', 'SW7 5': 'risk', 'SW7 3': 'risk',
↳ 'SW7 1': 'risk', 'SW7 9': 'risk', 'SW7 2': 'risk'}, {'SW7 4
↳ ': 'risk', 'SW7 5': 'risk', 'SW7 3': 'risk', 'SW7 1': 'risk',
↳ 'SW7 9': 'risk', 'SW7 2': 'risk'}]
>>> postcode_dictionaries == ans2
True
```

**locator.great\_circle\_distance**(*latlon1*, *latlon2*)

Calculate the great circle distance (in metres) between pairs of points specified as latitude and longitude on a spherical Earth (with radius 6371 km).

**Parameters**

- **latlon1** (*arraylike*) – latitudes and longitudes of first point (as [n, 2] array for n points)
- **latlon2** (*arraylike*) – latitudes and longitudes of second point (as [m, 2] array for m points)

**Returns**

Distance in metres between each pair of points (as an n x m array)

**Return type**

numpy.ndarray

## Examples

```
>>> import numpy
>>> fmt = lambda x: numpy.format_float_scientific(x, precision=3)
>>> with numpy.printoptions(formatter={'all': fmt}):    print(great_circle_
↳ distance([[54.0, 0.0], [55, 0.0]], [55, 1.0]))
[[1.286e+05]
 [6.378e+04]]
```

```
class solver.Planet(atmos_func='exponential', atmos_filename='/Users/wz22/acs-armageddon-
Dimorphos/armageddon/./resources/AltitudeDensityTable.csv', Cd=1.0, Ch=0.1,
Q=10000000.0, Cl=0.001, alpha=0.3, Rp=6371000.0, g=9.81, H=8000.0, rho0=1.2)
```

The class called Planet is initialised with constants appropriate for the given target planet, including the atmospheric density profile and other constants

Set up the initial parameters and constants for the target planet

### Parameters

- **atmos\_func** (*string, optional*) – Function which computes atmospheric density, rho, at altitude, z. Default is the exponential function  $\rho = \rho_0 \exp(-z/H)$ . Options are ‘exponential’, ‘tabular’ and ‘constant’
- **atmos\_filename** (*string, optional*) – Name of the filename to use with the tabular atmos\_func option
- **Cd** (*float, optional*) – The drag coefficient
- **Ch** (*float, optional*) – The heat transfer coefficient
- **Q** (*float, optional*) – The heat of ablation (J/kg)
- **Cl** (*float, optional*) – Lift coefficient
- **alpha** (*float, optional*) – Dispersion coefficient
- **Rp** (*float, optional*) – Planet radius (m)
- **rho0** (*float, optional*) – Air density at zero altitude (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- **g** (*float, optional*) – Surface gravity (m/s<sup>2</sup>)
- **H** (*float, optional*) – Atmospheric scale height (m)

### RK4\_helper(*timestep*)

Helper function for RK4 method

#### Parameters

- **timestep** (*float*) – The stepsize of iteration

#### Returns

**change** – A numpy array containing the change of each variable. Includes the following variables: ‘angle’, ‘radius’, ‘altitude’, ‘velocity’, ‘mass’, ‘distance’

#### Return type

ndarray

### analyse\_outcome(*result*)

Inspect a pre-found solution to calculate the impact and airburst stats

**Parameters**

**result** (*DataFrame*) – pandas dataframe with velocity, mass, angle, altitude, horizontal distance, radius and dedz as a function of time

**Returns**

**outcome** – dictionary with details of the impact event, which should contain the key:

outcome (which should contain one of the following strings: Airburst or Cratering),

as well as the following 4 keys:

burst\_peak\_dedz, burst\_altitude, burst\_distance, burst\_energy

**Return type**

Dict

**calculate\_energy**(*result*)

Function to calculate the kinetic energy lost per unit altitude in kilotons TNT per km, for a given solution.

**Parameters**

- **result** (*DataFrame*) – A pandas dataframe with columns for the velocity, mass, angle, altitude, horizontal distance and radius as a function of time
- **Returns** (*DataFrame*) – Returns the dataframe with additional column dedz which is the kinetic energy lost per unit altitude

**calculator\_rk4**(*variables*)

Calculate the change of variables at given point

**Parameters**

**variables** (*float*) – Angle, radius, altitude, velocity, mass, distance at currenty step

**Returns**

**result** – A numpy array containing the change of each variable. Includes the following variables: 'angle', 'radius', 'altitude', 'velocity', 'mass', 'distance'

**Return type**

ndarray

**create\_tabular\_density**(*filename*='./resources/AltitudeDensityTable.csv')

Create a function given altitude return the density of atomosphere using tabulated value

**Parameters**

**filename** (*str*, *optional*) – Path to the tabular. default="./resources/AltitudeDensityTable.csv"

**Returns**

**tabular\_density** – A function that takes altitude as input and return the density of atomosphere density at given altitude.

**Return type**

function

**solve\_atmospheric\_entry**(*radius*, *velocity*, *density*, *strength*, *angle*, *init\_altitude*=100000.0, *dt*=0.05, *radians*=False, *backend*='FE')

Solve the system of differential equations for a given impact scenario

**Parameters**

- **radius** (*float*) – The radius of the asteroid in meters

- **velocity** (*float*) – The entry speed of the asteroid in meters/second
- **density** (*float*) – The density of the asteroid in kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- **strength** (*float*) – The strength of the asteroid (i.e. the maximum pressure it can take before fragmenting) in N/m<sup>2</sup>
- **angle** (*float*) – The initial trajectory angle of the asteroid to the horizontal By default, input is in degrees. If 'radians' is set to True, the input should be in radians
- **init\_altitude** (*float*, *optional*) – Initial altitude in m
- **dt** (*float*, *optional*) – The output timestep, in s
- **radians** (*logical*, *optional*) – Whether angles should be given in degrees or radians. Default=False Angles returned in the dataframe will have the same units as the input
- **backend** (*str*, *optional*) – Which solving method to use. Default='FE'

**Returns**

**Result** – A pandas dataframe containing the solution to the system. Includes the following columns: 'velocity', 'mass', 'angle', 'altitude', 'distance', 'radius', 'time'

**Return type**

DataFrame

**solve\_atmospheric\_entry\_FE**(*radius*, *velocity*, *angle*, *init\_altitude*, *dt*)

Solve the system of differential equations for a given impact scenario using forward Euler method

**Parameters**

- **radius** (*float*) – The radius of the asteroid in meters
- **velocity** (*float*) – The entry speed of the asteroid in meters/second
- **angle** (*float*) – The initial trajectory angle of the asteroid to the horizontal By default, input is in degrees. If 'radians' is set to True, the input should be in radians
- **init\_altitude** (*float*, *optional*) – Initial altitude in m
- **dt** (*float*, *optional*) – The output timestep, in s

**Return type**

None

**solve\_atmospheric\_entry\_RK4**(*radius*, *velocity*, *angle*, *init\_altitude*, *dt*)

Solve the system of differential equations for a given impact scenario using RK4 method

**Parameters**

- **radius** (*float*) – The radius of the asteroid in meters
- **velocity** (*float*) – The entry speed of the asteroid in meters/second
- **angle** (*float*) – The initial trajectory angle of the asteroid to the horizontal By default, input is in degrees. If 'radians' is set to True, the input should be in radians
- **init\_altitude** (*float*, *optional*) – Initial altitude in m
- **dt** (*float*, *optional*) – The output timestep, in s

**Return type**

None

`damage.damage_zones(outcome, lat, lon, bearing, pressures, map=False)`

Calculate the latitude and longitude of the surface zero location and the list of airblast damage radii (m) for a given impact scenario.

### Parameters

- **outcome** (*Dict*) – the outcome dictionary from an impact scenario
- **lat** (*float*) – latitude of the meteoroid entry point (degrees)
- **lon** (*float*) – longitude of the meteoroid entry point (degrees)
- **bearing** (*float*) – Bearing (azimuth) relative to north of meteoroid trajectory (degrees)
- **pressures** (*float, arraylike*) – List of threshold pressures to define airblast damage levels
- **plot** (*bool*) – Boolean value to decide plotting

### Returns

- **blat** (*float*) – latitude of the surface zero point (degrees)
- **blon** (*float*) – longitude of the surface zero point (degrees)
- **damrad** (*arraylike, float*) – List of distances specifying the blast radii for the input damage levels
- **plot** (*plot object*) – The plot specifying the areas effected by each damage level

### Examples

```
>>> import armageddon
>>> outcome = {'burst_altitude': 8e3, 'burst_energy': 7e3,
               'burst_distance': 90e3, 'burst_peak_dedz': 1e3,
               'outcome': 'Airburst'}
>>> armageddon.damage_zones(outcome, 52.79, -2.95, 135,
                           pressures=[1e3, 3.5e3, 27e3, 43e3])
```

`damage.impact_risk(planet, means={'angle': 45, 'bearing': 115.0, 'density': 3000, 'lat': 53.0, 'lon': -2.5, 'radius': 35, 'strength': 10000000.0, 'velocity': 19000.0}, stdevs={'angle': 1, 'bearing': 0.5, 'density': 500, 'lat': 0.025, 'lon': 0.025, 'radius': 1, 'strength': 5000000.0, 'velocity': 1000.0}, pressure=27000.0, nsamples=10, sector=True)`

Perform an uncertainty analysis to calculate the risk for each affected UK postcode or postcode sector

### Parameters

- **planet** (*armageddon.Planet instance*) – The Planet instance from which to solve the atmospheric entry
- **means** (*dict*) – A dictionary of mean input values for the uncertainty analysis. This should include values for radius, angle, strength, density, velocity, lat, lon and bearing
- **stdevs** (*dict*) – A dictionary of standard deviations for each input value. This should include values for radius, angle, strength, density, velocity, lat, lon and bearing
- **pressure** (*float*) – A single pressure at which to calculate the damage zone for each impact
- **nsamples** (*int*) – The number of iterations to perform in the uncertainty analysis
- **sector** (*logical, optional*) – If True (default) calculate the risk for postcode sectors, otherwise calculate the risk for postcodes

**Returns**

**risk** – A pandas DataFrame with columns for postcode (or postcode sector) and the associated risk. These should be called **postcode** or **sector**, and **risk**.

**Return type**

DataFrame

`mapping.plot_circle(lat, lon, radius, map=None, **kwargs)`

Plot a circle on a map (creating a new folium map instance if necessary).

**Parameters**

- **lat** (*float*) – latitude of circle to plot (degrees)
- **lon** (*float*) – longitude of circle to plot (degrees)
- **radius** (*float*) – radius of circle to plot (m)
- **map** (*folium.Map*) – existing map object

**Return type**

Folium map object

**Examples**

```
>>> import folium
>>> armageddon.plot_circle(52.79, -2.95, 1e3, map=None)
```





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