

# orbittools

Orbittools is a set of functions useful in working with 2-body problems and observations. It's not not comprehensive nor particularly fancy, but it is useful. Bascially I wanted a place to store and easily call functions I used all the time. I'll update it sometimes.

```
In [1]: 1 from orbittools.orbittools import *
```

orbittools contains some basic functions that it's nice to automate. Here I'll show what they all do and what inputs look like.

**period** uses Kepler's third law to compute the period of a test particle with a certain semi-major axis in a Keplerian orbit around a central mass. It can take astropy unit objects of any distance and mass and returns period in years:

```
In [2]: 1 period(1*u.au, 1*u.Msun)
```

```
Out[2]: 1 yr
```

```
In [3]: 1 period(149.60e6*u.km, 2e30*u.kg)
```

```
Out[3]: 0.99713598 yr
```

Or if you enter values without units, it will return a number in years without an astropy unit. You must enter semi-major axis in au and mass in solar masses to get the right answer

```
In [4]: 1 period(1, 1)
```

```
Out[4]: 1.0
```

```
In [5]: 1 period(149.60e6, 2e30)
```

```
Out[5]: 0.0012938454188967088
```

**distance** uses the Bayesian estimation formulation given in Bailer-Jones 2015 to compute distance + error in parsecs given parallax + error in mas. Designed to work with the output of Gaia parallaxes.

For example the distance to HR 8799 using Gaia's parallax is:

```
In [6]: 1 distance(24.217514232723282, 0.08809423513976626)
```

```
Out[6]: (41.29350566835295, 0.15020740717277492)
```

**to\_polar** converts RA/DEC in degrees of two objects into their relative separation in mas and position angle in degrees.

For example, the wide stellar binary DS Tuc A and B both have well-defined solutions in Gaia DR2, and their separation and position angle is:

```
In [7]: 1 deg_to_mas = 3600000.
2 mas_to_deg = 1./3600000.
3
4 RAa, RAaerr = 354.9154672903039, 0.03459837195273078*mas_to_deg
5 DECa, DECaerr = -69.19604296286967, 0.02450688383611924*mas_to_deg
6 RAb, RAberr = 354.914570528965, 0.028643873627224457*mas_to_deg
7 DECb, DECberr = -69.19458723113503, 0.01971674184397741*mas_to_deg
8
9 to_polar(RAa,RAb,DECa,DECb)
```

```
Out[7]: (<Quantity 5364.61187229 mas>, <Quantity 347.65815486 deg>)
```

You can do a quick Monte Carlo to get errors:

```
In [8]: 1 seppa = to_polar(np.random.normal(RAa,RAaerr,10000),
2                       np.random.normal(RAb,RAberr,10000),
3                       np.random.normal(DECa,DECaerr,10000),
4                       np.random.normal(DECb,DECberr,10000))
5
6 print('Separation =',np.median(seppa[0]),'+-',np.std(seppa[0]))
7 print('PA =',np.median(seppa[1]),'+-',np.std(seppa[1]))
```

```
Separation = 5364.612076426886 mas +- 0.030608627492292793 mas
```

```
PA = 347.6581557948317 deg +- 0.0001799794663820236 deg
```

**physical\_separation** takes in the distance and angular separation between two objects and returns their physical separation in au. Distance and angle must be astropy units.

```
In [9]: 1 physical_separation(4.5*u.lyr,230*u.mas)
```

```
Out[9]: 0.31733244 AU
```

**angular\_separation** takes in distance and physical separation and returns angular separation in arcsec. Distance and separation must be in astropy units.

```
In [10]: 1 angular_separation(4.5*u.lyr,0.317*u.au)
```

```
Out[10]: 0.22975905 ''
```

**keplerian\_to\_cartesian** takes in keplerian orbital elements and returns the observed 3D position, velocity, and acceleration vectors in a right-handed system with +X = +DEC, +Y = +RA, +Z = towards the observer.

Let's look at the inputs:

```
In [11]: 1 help(keplerian_to_cartesian)
```

Help on function keplerian\_to\_cartesian in module orbittools.orbittools:

keplerian\_to\_cartesian(sma, ecc, inc, argp, lon, meananom, kep)

Given a set of Keplerian orbital elements, returns the observable 3-d imensional position, velocity, and acceleration at the specified time. Accepts and arbitrary number of input orbits. Semi-major axis must be an astropy unit object in physical distance (ex: au, but not arcsec). The observation time must be converted into mean anomaly before passing into function.

Inputs:

sma (1xN arr flt) [au]: semi-major axis in au, must be an astropy units object

ecc (1xN arr flt) [unitless]: eccentricity

inc (1xN arr flt) [deg]: inclination

argp (1xN arr flt) [deg]: argument of periastron

lon (1xN arr flt) [deg]: longitude of ascending node

meananom (1xN arr flt) [radians]: mean anomaly

kep (1xN arr flt): kepler constant =  $\mu/m$  where  $\mu = G*m_1*m_2$  and  $m = [1/m_1 + 1/m_2]^{-1}$ .

In the limit of  $m_1 \gg m_2$ ,  $\mu = G*m_1$  and  $m = m_2$

Returns:

pos (3xN arr) [au]: position in xyz coords in au, with

x = pos[0], y = pos[1], z = pos[2] for each of N orbits

+x = +Dec, +y = +RA, +z = towards observer

vel (3xN arr) [km/s]: velocity in xyz plane.

acc (3xN arr) [km/s/yr]: acceleration in xyz plane.

Written by Logan Pearce, 2019, inspired by Sarah Blunt

```

In [12]: 1 sma = 5.2*u.au
          2 ecc = 0.2
          3 inc = 46
          4 argp = 329
          5 lon = 245
          6 to = 2017.5*u.yr
          7 t = 2019.34*u.yr
          8 m1 = 1*u.Msun
          9 m2 = 0.2*u.Msun
         10 mu = c.G*m1*m2
         11 m = m2
         12 kep = mu/m
         13 per = period(sma,m1)
         14 #print(per)
         15
         16 meanmotion = np.sqrt(kep/(sma**3)).to(1/u.s)
         17 meananom = meanmotion*((t-to).to(u.s))
         18
         19 pos, vel, acc = keplerian_to_cartesian(sma,ecc,inc,argp,lon,meananom,va
         20 print('pos',pos)
         21 print('vel',vel)
         22 print('acc',acc)

```

```

pos [ 0.78520989 -4.00711834  2.49057801] AU
vel [10.72701811  4.13036521  8.25981672] km / s
acc [-1.34637308  6.84964031 -4.26121914] km / (s yr)

```

It can also return observables for an array of orbits.

Let's generate 10 trial orbits using the **draw\_orbits** function, which draws an array of orbital parameters from priors described in Pearce et al. 2019. SMA and Long of Nodes are fixed at 100. AU and 0 deg respectively as part of the Orbits for the Imptient procedure (OFTI; Blunt et al. 2017), because draw\_orbits was written as part of that procedure. For more, see those papers and the **lofti** python package.

**keplerian\_to\_cartesian** returns a 3xN array of observables for each of the N orbits input.

```

In [16]: 1 m1 = 1*u.Msun
          2 m2 = 0.2*u.Msun
          3 mu = c.G*m1*m2
          4 m = m2
          5 kep = mu/m
          6 obsdate = 2019.34
          7
          8 sma, ecc, inc, argp, lon, orbit_fraction = draw_orbits(10)
          9 meananom = orbit_fraction*2*np.pi
         10
         11 pos, vel, acc = keplerian_to_cartesian(sma*u.au, ecc, inc, argp, lon, meananom)
         12 print('pos', pos)
         13 print('vel', vel)
         14 print('acc', acc)

```

```

pos [[ -67.77294331  -1.8393458   19.47052144]
      [ -77.17461462   3.15548293   7.05064809]
      [-143.45286343 -10.82848091 -46.01202379]
      [  81.00668142 -58.68805504 -54.09916137]
      [ 192.09148214 -37.52924613  26.41629592]
      [ -76.37061185  67.60231574  80.46728074]
      [  22.07941865   2.00999668   2.36444801]
      [-21.46273727 -32.49869347 -49.92689809]
      [-34.84265082  20.70483422  57.80125155]
      [  69.25666329  15.39825834 -54.4231958 ]] AU
vel [[ 0.01022346  0.37949517 -4.01717216]
      [-2.36871988 -1.18350478 -2.64443698]
      [-0.46631186 -0.37349477 -1.58704166]
      [ 1.87894989  1.31523042  1.21239088]
      [-0.18040457 -0.23106871  0.16264594]
      [-2.05726617 -0.4785954  -0.56967383]
      [-6.42170584  3.51583124  4.13582781]
      [ 1.90350112  2.14953812  3.30227955]
      [-1.49989615 -1.26231379 -3.52397493]
      [ 2.8074744  -0.47850699  1.69122242]] km / s
acc [[ 0.03613682  0.0009807 -0.01038131]
      [ 0.03095409 -0.00126553 -0.00282771]
      [ 0.00779106  0.00058811  0.00249897]
      [-0.01030705  0.00746722  0.00688335]
      [-0.00466644  0.00091169 -0.00064173]
      [ 0.00651822 -0.00576981 -0.00686782]
      [-0.37281028 -0.03395334 -0.03994081]
      [ 0.01582063  0.02395558  0.03680233]
      [ 0.0185337  -0.01101319 -0.0307453 ]
      [-0.01812843 -0.00403055  0.01424545]] km / (s yr)

```

**cartesian\_to\_keplerian** takes in the 3D position and velocity array and returns the orbital parameters (as astropy unit objects) that would generate those observables. As of now, it can only handle a single orbit at a time.

Let's take that single orbit from before:

```

In [22]: 1 sma = 5.2*u.au
          2 ecc = 0.2
          3 inc = 46
          4 argp = 329
          5 lon = 245
          6 to = 2017.5*u.yr
          7 t = 2019.34*u.yr
          8 m1 = 1*u.Msun
          9 m2 = 0.2*u.Msun
         10 mu = c.G*m1*m2
         11 m = m2
         12 kep = mu/m
         13 per = period(sma,m1)
         14
         15 meanmotion = np.sqrt(kep/(sma**3)).to(1/u.s)
         16 meananom = meanmotion*((t-to).to(u.s))
         17 print('mean anomaly:',meananom)
         18
         19 pos, vel, acc = keplerian_to_cartesian(sma,ecc,inc,argp,lon,meananom,va
         20 print('pos',pos)
         21 print('vel',vel)
         22 print('acc',acc)

```

mean anomaly: 0.9749547815875452

pos [ 0.78520989 -4.00711834 2.49057801] AU

vel [10.72701811 4.13036521 8.25981672] km / s

acc [-1.34637308 6.84964031 -4.26121914] km / (s yr)

And compute the orbital elements:

```

In [23]: 1 cartesian_to_keplerian(pos,vel,kep)

```

```

Out[23]: (<Quantity 5.2 AU>,
          <Quantity 0.2>,
          <Quantity 46. deg>,
          <Quantity 329. deg>,
          <Quantity 245. deg>,
          <Quantity 0.9749548>)

```

Looks good!

```

In [ ]: 1

```