return satellites

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#Here are a collection of utility functions augmenting the astronomy package PYEPHEM by Jason Rhodes. They are used to retrieve #satellite path data from the internet, perform conversions between data representations, compare the telescope's actual pointing position #with its desired position (and correct if necessary), and check the end points of the levy walk for validity with regards to the horizon at #the telescope's location. #All functions are in python and platform independent #required: pyephem, urllib #------#!/usr/bin/env python # ephem helper to get NORAD 2 line satellite descriptors # and to read the files into ephem # june 2007 #----import os, sys, time import urllib import ephem from ephem mathematics import * #for LTE: 2 lines of data, one header numlines = 2numdata = 3limit = 8192#----def get satellite data(url, sat name, filename): site = url + sat namefp = urllib.urlopen(site) print site op = open(filename, "wb") #print "opening file for write.." n = 0while 1: s = fp.read(limit)if not s: break op.write(s) n = n + len(s)fp.close() op.close() def read tle file(location): $satellites = \{\}$ lines = open(location).readlines() for i in range(len(lines) - numlines): if lines[i+1].startswith('1') and lines[i+numlines].startswith('2'): satellite = ephem.readtle(*lines[i:i+numdata]) satellites[satellite.name] = satellite

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def get transits(observer, satellite, date):
         #get unique transit times
         transit_times = []
         for minutes in range(0, 24*60, 15):
                  observer.date = date
                  observer.date += minutes * ephem.minute
                  satellite.compute(observer)
         if satellite.transit time is None:
                  continue
         close transit times = [
                  t for t in transit_times
                  if abs(t - satellite.transit time) < 30 * ephem.second
         if not close transit times:
                  transit times.append(satellite.transit time)
         return(transit times)
def close enough(currentposition, finalposition, threshold):
         #assumes positions are given as pairs [ra,dec]
         #if close enough return a bool true, else a bool false
         #express the position as a pair of floats of the ra and dec values
         currentpos = float(ephem.degrees(currentposition[0])), float(ephem.degrees(currentposition[1]))
         finalpos = float(ephem.degrees(finalposition[0])), float(ephem.degrees(finalposition[1]))
         difference = ephem.separation(finalpos, currentpos)
         #print "the difference in deg is: ", abs(ephem.degrees(difference))
         #print "comparing with:", threshold
         if((ephem.degrees(difference)) < threshold):</pre>
                  close = True
         else:
                  close = False
         return (close)
def ra2angle(ra):
  #Converts an 1x200 ra response into an angle in degrees
  angle = float(ephem.hours(ra))
  return angle * 360 / (2*pi)
def ra2rad(ra):
  #Converts ra to radians
  angle = float(ephem.hours(ra))
  return(angle)
#-----
def rad2angle(rad):
  #converts rad to angle in degrees(0 - 360)
  angle = float(rad*360 / (2*pi))
  return angle
#-----
def angle2rad(angle):
  #convert angle to radians
  rads = float(angle)
  return(rads)
#-----
def make_norm_deg(deg):
  #normalize an angle to 0 to 360 degrees
  norm_deg = deg\%360
  return(norm deg)
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def make_norm_rad(rad, factor):
  #normalize an angle to 0 to factor degrees
  norm rad = rad\%(factor)
  if(norm rad < 0.09): #5degrees
    print "special case.."
    norm rad = factor - norm rad
  return(norm rad)
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def get_horizon(latitude, ra, safety_margin):
  #returns the min DEC to 'see' above the horizon, given your latitude on the earth and the direction you are pointing (ra)
  #assuming you are on the northern hemisphere
  #convert latitude to degrees:
  latitude d = float(latitude) * 360 / (2*pi)
  #the min acceptable horizon pointing due north (northern hemisphere) is:
  min horizon n = (90 - latitude d)
  #the min horizon pointing due south (northern hemisphere) is:
  min horizon s = (0 - latitude d)
  #convert the ra
  angle = ra2angle(ra)
  if(angle > 180):
    angle = 360 - angle
  #get the min angle DEC to 'see' above the horizon
  min dec = (min horizon n - ((angle / 180)* (min horizon n - min horizon s)) + safety margin)
  return(min dec)
def get valid levywalk destination(sfactor, latitude, start):
  RA = start[0]; DEC = start[1]
  #make a valid new levywalk point pair (ra, dec)
  mean = 0; std = 0.1; lowerlimit = 0.0035; upperlimit = 10; location = 0.0; numpoints = 1;
  safety margin = 5;
  #create the levy walk data point based on the new sfactor
  levy x,levy y = LevyWalk(mean, std, lowerlimit, upperlimit, location, sfactor, numpoints, doshow=0)
  new ra = (ra2rad(RA) + levy x[0])
  new ra = make norm rad(new ra, (2*pi))
  new_dec = (angle2rad(DEC) + levy_y[0])
  new dec = make norm rad(new dec, (pi/2))
  new ra = ephem.hours(new ra)
  new dec = ephem.degrees(new dec)
  min dec = get horizon(latitude, new ra, safety margin)
  if(rad2angle(float(new_dec)) > min_dec):
    print "above horizion"
    valid ra = new_ra
    valid dec = new dec
  else:
    print "BELOW horizion"
    valid ra = start[0]
    valid dec = start[1]
  return valid ra, valid dec
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