
Subject: IDL orbit propagator

Posted by [Mark Conner](#) on Wed, 19 Mar 2008 16:55:06 GMT

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I know this may be asking a lot, but my Google searching so far leads me to believe this might be out there somewhere but I haven't found the right place yet.

I'm looking for some IDL routines that will take a two-line element (TLE) set for an earth-orbiting satellite and create the nadir position or track. Extreme precision in the orbit propagation is not necessary - we will probably be using times within a couple weeks of the TLE epoch. This will be used somewhat interactively to determine when a satellite has passed or will pass over a user-identified point on the earth.

These satellites will typically be outside the range where atmospheric drag is a factor (normally, earth-observing polar orbiters).

I'd rather not do DLLs because we'd like the same GUI available on Windows, Solaris, and maybe AIX but we might have to take what we can find.

- Mark

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