

Package ‘astroFns’

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R topics documented:

astroFns-package	2
angSep	2
b2j	3
beamDiskOverlap	4
dmjd2ut	5
dms2rad	6
elev	7
gmst1	9
hms2rad	10
j2b	11
jd2ymd	12
planetFlux	13
rad2dms	14

rad2hms	15
ut2dmjd	15
ut2lst	16
ymd2jd	18

Index	20
--------------	-----------

astroFns-package	<i>Astronomy: time and position functions, misc. utilities</i>
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Description

Collection of time, position, and utility functions for astronomy: Julian and Modified Julian Day transformations, J2000/B1950 coordinate transformations, GMST at 0h from UT, UT to LST and hour angle, angular unit transformations and distance, etc. Precision generally at the level of a millisecond in time for JD, 0.1 s for LST, and a few tenths of an arcsecond in position for B2000-J1950 and vice versa. Additional functions include flux from thermal disk-shaped source, and others. Functions were originally assembled to support single-dish radio astronomy planning and observations. Cosmology-related functions are in the cosmoFns package.

Details

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LazyLoad:	yes

Author(s)

Andrew Harris Maintainer: Andrew Harris <harris@astro.umd.edu>

angSep	<i>Angular separation of two sky positions</i>
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Description

angSep calculates the angular separation of two sky positions using spherical trigonometry.

Usage

angSep(ra1, dec1, ra2, dec2)

Arguments

ra1	Right ascension (string) of the first position.
dec1	Declination of (string) the first position.
ra2	Right ascension (string) the second position.
dec2	Declination of (string) the second position.

Details

Enter positions as text strings with fields separated by characters d, h, m, s, a colon, or a comma, e.g. '17, 42, 28', '-28h43m03s', or '- 28 :43 : 3'. Spaces are removed in input conversion. This is a spherical trigonometry calculation, valid for small and large distances.

Value

Returns angular separation in decimal degrees.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

See [dms2rad](#), [hms2rad](#) for input conversions.

Examples

```
angSep('1, 59, 03', '-3, 40, 44', '2, 30', '5, 40, 03')
angSep('1h59m03s', '-3d40m44s', '2h30', '5h40m03')
angSep('1', '0', '2', '0')
angSep(' 1, 40, 4', ' - 5, 6', '3', '1')
```

b2j

B1950 to J2000 coordinate conversion

Description

Precession from B1950 to J2000

Usage

```
b2j(ra = "17h42m29.3076s", dec = "-28d59m18.484s")
```

Arguments

ra	B1950 Right ascension (string)
dec	B1950 Declination (string)

Details

Enter positions as text strings with fields separated by characters d, h, m, s, a colon, or a comma, e.g. '17, 42, 28', '-28h43m03s', or '- 28 :43 : 3'. Spaces are removed in input conversion. Trailing missing values are taken as zero. The code uses an approximate formula for precession; spot checks give results accurate within a few tenths of an arcsecond.

Value

List with strings in:

ra2000	J2000 Right ascension
dec2000	J2000 Declination

Note

Calculation based on power-law expansion of exact function.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

Explanatory supplement to the Astronomical Almanac, Seidelmann (ed.), c.~1992, chapter 3.213

See Also

[j2b](#). See [dms2rad](#), [hms2rad](#) for input conversions.

Examples

```
b2j()
b2j(ra='17, 43', dec='-28, 47, 30')
b2j(ra='17, 43', dec=' - 28, 47, 30')
b2j(ra='17h43m', dec='-28d47m30s')
tmp <- b2j(ra='17, 43', dec=' - 28, 47, 30')
str(tmp)
tmp
```

beamDiskOverlap

Gaussian beam and disk overlap with shift

Description

Calculate the overlap integral of a 2-D Gaussian beam and a uniform disk, including a shift between the centers of the beam and disk.

Usage

```
beamDiskOverlap(s = 0, r = 1, theta.fwhm = 1)
```

Arguments

s	Shift between centers
r	Disk radius
theta.fwhm	Gaussian beam FWHM

Details

Converts the 2-D integral to 1-D for speed. Use consistent units.

Value

Value of the overlap integral, normalized to unity for a beam much smaller than the disk.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

"Telescope illumination and beam measurements for submillimeter astronomy," A.I. Harris, Internat. J. IR and mm Waves, 9, 231 (1988)

Examples

```
s <- seq(0, 10, 0.1)
plot(s, beamDiskOverlap(s, 4, 1), t='l', col=4)
```

 dmjd2ut

DMJD to UT

Description

Decimal modified Julian date to Universal time.

Usage

```
dmjd2ut(dmjd, tz='UTC')
```

Arguments

dmjd	Time in decimal Modified Julian Date
tz	Time zone string

Details

Calculation is always from UTC, but it is possible to correct to local time zone with `tz` (see [Sys.timezone](#)). For instance, `tz = 'EST5EDT'` converts to U.S. Eastern time, with EST or EDT based on the system's knowledge of the date for switching between the two. Set the number of digits after the decimal place for seconds, `n`, with options(`'digits.secs'=n`).

Value

Time string with class `POSIXct`

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

[ut2dmjd](#), [ymd2jd](#), [strptime](#), [ISOdatetime](#), [axis.POSIXct](#) for time in plot axes; [as.POSIXct](#) to recover time in plot from `locator()`

Examples

```
dmjd2ut(56951.54183613)

sd <- getOption('digits.secs')
dmjd2ut(ut2dmjd(2010, 1, 5, 2, 34, 17.8115))
options('digits.secs' = 3)
dmjd2ut(ut2dmjd(2015, 1, 5, 2, 34, 17.8115))
options('digits.secs' = sd)

dmjd2ut(ut2dmjd(2015, 1, 5, 2, 34, 17.8115), tz='CET')
dmjd2ut(ut2dmjd(2015, 8, 5, 2, 34, 17.8115), tz='CET')
dmjd2ut(ut2dmjd(2015, 1, 5, 2, 34, 17.8115), tz='EST5EDT')
dmjd2ut(ut2dmjd(2015, 8, 5, 2, 34, 17.8115), tz='EST5EDT')

dmjd2ut(ymd2jd(2001, 1, 1) - 2400000.5)
```

dms2rad

Degrees, minutes, and seconds to radians

Description

Angular conversion from degrees, minutes, and seconds to radians

Usage

```
dms2rad(d = '33d 09m 35.0s')
```

Arguments

d String containing degrees, minutes, and seconds

Details

Function reads a string (the input is a string to allow conversion of angles between -1 and zero degrees) with degrees, minutes, and seconds separated by any of characters d, m, s, a colon, or a comma. Spaces are not valid separators, as they are removed as part of input parsing. Decimal values are allowed in any position. Zeros are the default if values for minutes or seconds are missing from the string. A minus sign, W, or w before the degrees indicates negative degrees. Positive degrees are denoted by no character, +, E, or e before the degrees values.

Value

Angle in radians

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

[hms2rad](#), [rad2dms](#), [rad2hms](#)

Examples

```
dms2rad('10, 22, 14')
dms2rad('10:22:14')
dms2rad('10d22m14s')
dms2rad('-0, 30')
dms2rad('-77d30.5m')
dms2rad('W 77d30.5m')
dms2rad(-77.5083333)
```

elev

Source elevation

Description

Calculates source elevation and azimuth in degrees given declination, hour angle, and observatory latitude.

Usage

```
elev(dec.sou = "33d 09m 35.0s", ha = 0, lat.obs = "38d 25m 59.2s")
```

```
azimuth(dec.sou = "33d 09m 35.0s", ha = 0, lat.obs = "38d 25m 59.2s")
```

Arguments

dec.sou	Source declination (string)
ha	Hour angle (decimal hours)
lat.obs	Observatory latitude (string)

Details

Enter latitude as s text string with fields separated by characters d, h, m, s, a colon, or a comma, e.g. '38d25m59.2s' or '38, 25, 59.2' or '38:25:59.2' or '38:25.987' for the Green Bank Telescope. Spaces are removed in input conversion. Decimal values for degrees or minutes are allowed. Trailing missing values are taken as zero.

Value

Source elevation or azimuth (E from N) in degrees.

Note

Geometrical calculation only, no corrections for refraction, aberration, precession, etc.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

"Astrophysical Formulae," K.R. Lang, Springer c. 1986, 5-45

See Also

[dms2rad](#), [hms2rad](#) for input formats, [ut2ha](#) to convert UT to hour angle.

Examples

```
# Maximum elevation at Green Bank
elev(dms2rad('-28, 20'))

# Maximum elevation at Mauna Kea
elev(dms2rad('-28, 20'), 0, '19:49')

# Plot elevation and azimuth vs. hour angle
ha <- seq(0, 24, 0.25)
el <- elev('30d 33m 22s', ha)
plot(ha, el, t='l', col=4)
az <- azimuth('30d 33m 22s', ha)
plot(ha, az, t='l', col=4)

# Plot elevation and azimuth vs. UT (using many defaults)
h.ut <- seq(0, 24, 0.25)
el <- elev(dec.sou='30d 33m 22s', ha=ut2ha(hr=h.ut))
```



```
plot(h.ut, el, t='l', col=4)
az <- azimuth(dec.sou='30d 33m 22s', ha=ut2ha(hr=h.ut))
plot(h.ut, az, t='l', col=4)
```

gmst1

GMST1 (Greenwich Mean Siderial Time at 0h, UT1) from UT1 date

Description

Calculate Greenwich Mean Siderial Time at 0h, UT1 (GMST1) from UT1 year, month, and day.

Usage

```
gmst1(yr = 2012, mo = 1, dy = 1)
```

Arguments

yr	UT1 year (integer)
mo	UT1 month (integer)
dy	UT1 day (integer)

Details

Function calculates Greenwich Mean Siderial Time at 0h, UT1 (GMST1) given UT1 year, month, and day.

Value

Returns fractional hours of GMST1 with class fracHrs. The corresponding print method gives hh:mm:ss format rounded to n decimal places in seconds by setting options('digits.secs'=n).

Note

Multiply UT1 fractional day by 1.002737909350795 to get fractional sidereal day.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

Explanatory Supplement to the Astronomical Almanac Seidelmann (ed), c. 1992

See Also

[ymd2jd](#)

Examples

```
out <- gmst1(yr=2012, mo=7, dy=8)
str(out)
out
```

`hms2rad`*Hours, minutes, and seconds to radians*

Description

Angular conversion from hours, minutes, and seconds to radians.

Usage

```
hms2rad(h = '12h 3m 45.6s')
```

Arguments

`h` String hours, minutes, and seconds

Details

Function reads a string (the input is a string to allow conversion of angles between -1 and zero hours) with hours, minutes, and seconds separated by any of characters d, m, s, a colon, or a comma. Spaces are not valid separators, as they are removed as part of input parsing. Zeros are the default if values for minutes or seconds are missing from the string. A minus sign before the hours indicates negative hours. Decimal values are allowed in any position.

Value

Angle in radians.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

[dms2rad](#), [rad2hms](#), [rad2dms](#)

Examples

```
hms2rad('10, 22, 14')
hms2rad('-0:30')
hms2rad('0h30')
```

j2b

J2000 to B1950 coordinate conversion

Description

Precession from J1950 to B2000

Usage

```
j2b(ra = "17:30:30", dec = "-28:47")
```

Arguments

ra	J2000 Right ascension (string)
dec	J2000 Declination (string)

Details

Enter positions as text strings with fields separated by characters d, h, m, s, a colon, or a comma, e.g. '17, 42, 28', '-28h43m03s', or '- 28 :43 : 3'. Spaces are removed in input conversion. Trailing missing values are taken as zero. The code uses an approximate formula for precession; spot checks give results accurate within a few tenths of an arcsecond.

Value

List with strings in:

ra1950	B1950 Right ascension
dec1950	B1950 Declination

Note

Values based on power-law expansion of more exact calculation.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

Explanatory supplement to the Astronomical Almanac, Seidelmann (ed.), c.~1992, chapter 3.213

See Also

[b2j](#). See [dms2rad](#), [hms2rad](#) for input conversions.

Examples

```
j2b()  
j2b(ra='17h43m', dec='-28d47m30s')  
tmp <- j2b(ra='17, 43', dec=' - 28, 47, 30')  
str(tmp)  
tmp
```

jd2ymd	<i>JD to year, month, date</i>
--------	--------------------------------

Description

Convert Julian date to UT1 year, month, and date.

Value

Date for 0h, UT1, with class POSIXct

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

Fliegel & Van Flandern, Comm. ACM 10, 657 (1968), whose algorithm uses FORTRAN integer mathematics

See Also

[weekdays](#), [dmjd2ut](#)

Examples

```
jd2ymd(2456092.5) # returns 0h date, 2012-06-14 UT  
jd2ymd(2456092.6) # returns 0h date, 2012-06-14 UT  
jd2ymd(2456092.4) # returns 0h date, 2012-06-13 UT
```

planetFlux	<i>Flux density from a thermal disk</i>
------------	---

Description

The flux density from a disk-shaped blackbody with uniform temperature observed in a Gaussian beam.

Usage

```
planetFlux(T = 195, dp = 14.8, thetab = 19.4, f = 32)
```

Arguments

T	Disk's physical temperature
dp	Planet diameter, arcsec
thetab	Beam FWHM, arcsec
f	Observing frequency, GHz

Details

Geometry is for a uniform-temperature disk, a planet to some approximation, in a Gaussian beam.

Value

Flux density in janskys

Note

For a physical Mars model, see <http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/~bbutler/work/mars/model/>

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

Examples

```
planetFlux()
```

`rad2dms`*Convert radians to degrees, minutes, and seconds*

Description

Angular conversion from radians to degrees, minutes, and seconds

Usage

```
rad2dms(rad = 1, places = 2)
```

Arguments

<code>rad</code>	Decimal radians
<code>places</code>	Number of decimal places in seconds term (0:6)

Details

Convert radians to degrees, minutes, and seconds.

Value

Fixed-format string with sign, then degrees, minutes, and seconds separated by colons.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

[rad2hms](#), [dms2rad](#), [hms2rad](#)

Examples

```
rad2dms(2.44)
rad2dms(dms2rad(c('-1,4,5.12', '10:04: 5.3')), places=3)
rad2dms(-66.5 * pi/180) # from degrees to dms
```

rad2hms	<i>Convert radians to hours, minutes, and seconds</i>
---------	---

Description

Angular conversion from radians to hours, minutes, and seconds

Usage

```
rad2hms(rad = 1, places = 1)
```

Arguments

rad	Decimal radians
places	Number of decimal places in seconds term (0:6)

Value

Fixed-format string with hours, minutes, and seconds separated by colons.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

[rad2dms](#), [dms2rad](#), [hms2rad](#)

Examples

```
rad2hms(2.44)
rad2hms(hms2rad(c('10:04:5.12', '27,04,5.3', '-3:0:0')), places=3)
rad2hms(266.5 * pi/180) # from degrees to hms
```

ut2dmjd	<i>UT to DMJD</i>
---------	-------------------

Description

Universal time to decimal modified Julian date.

Usage

```
ut2dmjd(yr = 2012, mo = 1, dy = 1, hr = 0, mi = 0, se = 0)
```

Arguments

yr	UT year
mo	UT month
dy	UT day
hr	UT hour
mi	UT minute
se	UT second

Value

Decimal modified Julian date.

Note

Uses [ymd2jd](#) to calculate Julian date

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

See Also

[dmjd2ut](#)

Examples

```
ut2dmjd(yr=2000, mo=1, dy=1, hr=0, mi=0, se=0)
format(ut2dmjd(yr=2012, mo=5, dy=20, hr=7, mi=8, se=39), digits=10)
```

ut2lst

Universal time to local sidereal time or hour angle

Description

Functions to calculate local sidereal time (LST) or hour angle (HA) from Universal time (strictly, UTC1).

Usage

```
ut2lst(yr = 2012, mo = 1, dy = 1, hr = 0, mi = 0, se = 0,
lon.obs = "W 79d 50.5m")
```

```
ut2ha(yr = 2012, mo = 1, dy = 1, hr = 0, mi = 0, se = 0,
ra.sou = "13h 31m 08.3s", lon.obs = "W 79d 50m 23.4s")
```


Arguments

yr	UT1 Year
mo	UT1 Month number
dy	UT1 Day number
hr	UT1 Hour
mi	UT1 Minute
se	UT1 Seconds
ra.sou	String with source Right Ascension
lon.obs	String with observatory longitude

Details

If this input is `hr = Sys.time()` the function uses system time, including conversion to UT. UT is within a few seconds of UT1.

Value

Returns decimal local sidereal time in range 0 to 24 hours and hour angle from -1 to 12 hours, with class `fracHrs` (prints as h:m:s). For elapsed sidereal time difference over multiple sidereal days, difference UT days (from e.g. `ut2dmjd`) and multiply by 1.002737909350795.

Note

Spot checks show values match tabulated values in The Astronomical Almanac within ~0.01 seconds.

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

Greenwich mean sidereal time (GMST) at 0h UT1 from the "Explanatory Supplement to the Astronomical Almanac," Seidelmann (ed), c. 1992. Approximate equation of the equinoxes from <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/faq/docs/GAST.php>.

See Also

[ymd2jd](#), [gmst1](#), [dms2rad](#) and [hms2rad](#) for input formats, [Sys.time](#), [Sys.timezone](#) and time zone examples in [as.POSIXlt](#).

Examples

```
# LST at UT1 midnight on the first of every month for Green Bank, WV, USA
midLST <- ut2lst(yr = 2012, mo = 1:12, dy = 1, hr = 0, mi = 0, se = 0,
                lon.obs="W 79d 50.5m")

str(midLST)
midLST

# LST at EST midnight on the first of every month for Green Bank, WV, USA
# (EST = UT1-5 hours)
midLST <- ut2lst(yr = 2012, mo = 1:12, dy = 1, hr = -5, mi = 0, se = 0,
                lon.obs="W 79d 50.5m")

str(midLST)
midLST

# LST in Green Bank, WV, USA, now, and 12 hours from now.
ut2lst(Sys.time())
ut2lst(Sys.time() + 12*3600)

# Hour angle of 3C286 in Green Bank now (using function defaults)
ut2ha(Sys.time())
```

ymd2jd

Year, month, day to 0h on Julian day

Description

Convert year, month, day to 0h on Julian day.

Usage

```
ymd2jd(yr = 2012, mo = 1, dy = 1)
```

Arguments

yr	UT1 Year
mo	UT1 Month number
dy	UT1 Day number

Details

Returns Julian date of 0 hours on the specified day. To get to noon on day, the time origin of Julian days, add 0.5.

Value

Julian date

Author(s)

Andrew Harris

References

Fliegel & Van Flandern, Comm. ACM 10, 657 (1968), whose algorithm uses FORTRAN integer mathematics. See also the Explanatory Supplement to the Astronomical Almanac, ed. P.K. Seidelmann, c. 1992.

See Also

[weekdays](#), [ut2dmjd](#)

Examples

```
# Ensure enough digits to see result, then return to previous value
dig <- getOption('digits')
options(digits=16)
ymd2jd(yr=2000, mo=1, dy=1)
ymd2jd(yr=2000, mo=1, dy=1.3) # rounds to nearest day
options(digits=dig)
jd2ymd(ymd2jd(yr=2000, mo=1, dy=1))
```

Index

*Topic **chron**

dmjd2ut, [5](#)
gmst1, [9](#)
jd2ymd, [12](#)
ut2dmjd, [15](#)
ut21st, [16](#)
ymd2jd, [18](#)

*Topic **misc**

angSep, [2](#)
b2j, [3](#)
beamDiskOverlap, [4](#)
dms2rad, [6](#)
elev, [7](#)
hms2rad, [10](#)
j2b, [11](#)
planetFlux, [13](#)
rad2dms, [14](#)
rad2hms, [15](#)

*Topic **package**

astroFns-package, [2](#)

angSep, [2](#)

as.POSIXct, [6](#)

as.POSIXlt, [17](#)

astroFns (astroFns-package), [2](#)

astroFns-package, [2](#)

axis.POSIXct, [6](#)

azimuth (elev), [7](#)

b2j, [3](#), [11](#)

beamDiskOverlap, [4](#)

dmjd2ut, [5](#), [12](#), [16](#)

dms2rad, [3](#), [4](#), [6](#), [8](#), [10](#), [11](#), [14](#), [15](#), [17](#)

elev, [7](#)

gmst1, [9](#), [17](#)

hms2rad, [3](#), [4](#), [7](#), [8](#), [10](#), [11](#), [14](#), [15](#), [17](#)

ISOdatetime, [6](#)

j2b, [4](#), [11](#)

jd2ymd, [12](#)

planetFlux, [13](#)

rad2dms, [7](#), [10](#), [14](#), [15](#)

rad2hms, [7](#), [10](#), [14](#), [15](#)

strptime, [6](#)

Sys.time, [17](#)

Sys.timezone, [6](#), [17](#)

ut2dmjd, [6](#), [15](#), [17](#), [19](#)

ut2ha, [8](#)

ut2ha (ut21st), [16](#)

ut21st, [16](#)

weekdays, [12](#), [19](#)

ymd2jd, [6](#), [9](#), [16](#), [17](#), [18](#)