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# **TLE-tools**

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**TLE-tools** is a small library to work with [two-line element set](#) files.



## PURPOSE

The purpose of the library is to parse TLE sets into convenient *TLE* objects, load entire TLE set files into `pandas.DataFrame`'s, convert *TLE* objects into `poliastro.twobody.Orbit`'s, and more.

From [Wikipedia](#):

A two-line element set (TLE) is a data format encoding a list of orbital elements of an Earth-orbiting object for a given point in time, the epoch. The TLE data representation is specific to the [simplified perturbations models](#) (SGP, SGP4, SDP4, SGP8 and SDP8), so any algorithm using a TLE as a data source must implement one of the SGP models to correctly compute the state at a time of interest. TLEs can describe the trajectories only of Earth-orbiting objects.

Here is an example TLE:

```
ISS (ZARYA)
1 25544U 98067A   19249.04864348   .00001909   00000-0   40858-4 0   9990
2 25544   51.6464 320.1755 0007999   10.9066   53.2893 15.50437522187805
```

Here is a minimal example on how to load the previous TLE:

```
from tletools import TLE

tle_string = """
ISS (ZARYA)
1 25544U 98067A   19249.04864348   .00001909   00000-0   40858-4 0   9990
2 25544   51.6464 320.1755 0007999   10.9066   53.2893 15.50437522187805
"""

tle_lines = tle_string.strip().splitlines()

t = TLE.from_lines(*tle_lines)
```

Then `t` is:

```
TLE(name='ISS (ZARYA)', norad='25544', classification='U', int_desig='98067A',
epoch_year=2019, epoch_day=249.04864348, dn_o2=1.909e-05, ddn_o6=0.0, bstar=4.0858e-
→05,
set_num=999, inc=51.6464, raan=320.1755, ecc=0.0007999, argp=10.9066, M=53.2893,
n=15.50437522, rev_num=18780)
```

and you can then access its attributes like `t.argp`, `t.epoch`...





## INSTALLATION

Install and update using `pip`:

```
pip install -U TLE-tools
```



## LINKS

- Website: <https://federicostra.github.io/tletools>
- Documentation: <https://tletools.readthedocs.io>
- Releases: <https://pypi.org/project/TLE-tools>
- Code: <https://github.com/FedericoStra/tletools>
- Issue tracker: <https://github.com/FedericoStra/tletools/issues>



## INDICES AND TABLES

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`

### 4.1 API Documentation

If you are looking for information on a specific function, class, or method, this part of the documentation is for you.

#### 4.1.1 API Documentation

This part of the documentation covers all the interfaces of `tletools`. For guides on how to use them, please consult the tutorials.

#### TLE Classes

The module `tletools.tle` defines the classes `TLE` and `TLEu`.

The library offers two classes to represent a single TLE. There is the unitless version `TLE`, whose attributes are expressed in the same units that are used in the TLE format, and there is the unitful version `TLEu`, whose attributes are quantities (`astropy.units.Quantity`), a type able to represent a value with an associated unit taken from `astropy.units`.

Here is a short example of how you can use them:

```
>>> tle_string = """
... ISS (ZARYA)
... 1 25544U 98067A   19249.04864348   .00001909   00000-0   40858-4 0   9990
... 2 25544   51.6464 320.1755 0007999   10.9066   53.2893 15.50437522187805
... """
>>> tle_lines = tle_string.strip().splitlines()
>>> TLE.from_lines(*tle_lines)
TLE(name='ISS (ZARYA)', norad='25544', ..., n=15.50437522, rev_num=18780)
```

**class** `tletools.tle.TLE`(*name, norad, classification, int\_desig, epoch\_year, epoch\_day, dn\_o2, ddh\_o6, bstar, set\_num, inc, raan, ecc, argp, M, n, rev\_num*)  
Data class representing a single TLE.

A two-line element set (TLE) is a data format encoding a list of orbital elements of an Earth-orbiting object for a given point in time, the epoch.

All the attributes parsed from the TLE are expressed in the same units that are used in the TLE format.

#### Variables

- **name** (*str*) – Name of the satellite.
- **norad** (*str*) – NORAD catalog number ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satellite\\_Catalog\\_Number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satellite_Catalog_Number)).
- **classification** (*str*) – ‘U’, ‘C’, ‘S’ for unclassified, classified, secret.
- **int\_desig** (*str*) – International designator ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Designator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Designator)),
- **epoch\_year** (*int*) – Year of the epoch.
- **epoch\_day** (*float*) – Day of the year plus fraction of the day.
- **dn\_o2** (*float*) – First time derivative of the mean motion divided by 2.
- **ddn\_o6** (*float*) – Second time derivative of the mean motion divided by 6.
- **bstar** (*float*) – BSTAR coefficient (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BSTAR>).
- **set\_num** (*int*) – Element set number.
- **inc** (*float*) – Inclination.
- **raan** (*float*) – Right ascension of the ascending node.
- **ecc** (*float*) – Eccentricity.
- **argp** (*float*) – Argument of perigee.
- **M** (*float*) – Mean anomaly.
- **n** (*float*) – Mean motion.
- **rev\_num** (*int*) – Revolution number.

**asdict** (*computed=False, epoch=False*)

Return a dict of the attributes.

**astuple** ()

Return a tuple of the attributes.

**classmethod from\_lines** (*name, line1, line2*)

Parse a TLE from its constituent lines.

All the attributes parsed from the TLE are expressed in the same units that are used in the TLE format.

**classmethod load** (*filename*)

Load multiple TLEs from a file.

**classmethod loads** (*string*)

Load multiple TLEs from a string.

**to\_orbit** (*attractor=Earth* ())

Convert to an orbit around the attractor.

**property a**

Semi-major axis.

**property epoch**

Epoch of the TLE.

**property nu**

True anomaly.

**class** `tletools.tle.TLEu`(*name, norad, classification, int\_desig, epoch\_year, epoch\_day, dn\_o2, ddn\_o6, bstar, set\_num, inc, raan, ecc, argp, M, n, rev\_num*)  
 Unitful data class representing a single TLE.

This is a subclass of `TLE`, so refer to that class for a description of the attributes, properties and methods.

The only difference here is that all the attributes are quantities (`astropy.units.Quantity`), a type able to represent a value with an associated unit taken from `astropy.units`.

## Interoperability

### Pandas

The module `tletools.pandas` provides convenience functions to load two-line element set files into `pandas.DataFrame`'s.

`tletools.pandas.add_epoch(df)`

Add a column 'epoch' to a dataframe.

*df* must have columns 'epoch\_year' and 'epoch\_day', from which the column 'epoch' is computed.

**Parameters** *df* (`pandas.DataFrame`) – `pandas.DataFrame` instance to modify.

#### Example

```
>>> from pandas import DataFrame
>>> df = DataFrame([[2018, 31.2931], [2019, 279.3781]],
...                 columns=['epoch_year', 'epoch_day'])
>>> add_epoch(df)
>>> df
   epoch_year  epoch_day  epoch
0         2018    31.2931  2018-01-31 07:02:03.840
1         2019   279.3781  2019-10-06 09:04:27.840
```

`tletools.pandas.load_dataframe(filename, *, computed=False, epoch=True)`

Load multiple TLEs from one or more files and return a `pandas.DataFrame`.

### Poliastro

*coming soon*

### Utils

`tletools.utils.partition(iterable, n, rest=False)`

Partition an iterable into tuples.

The iterable *iterable* is progressively consumed *n* items at a time in order to produce tuples of length *n*.

#### Parameters

- **iterable** (*iterable*) – The iterable to partition.
- **n** (*int*) – Length of the desired tuples.
- **rest** (*bool*) – Whether to return a possibly incomplete tuple at the end.

**Returns** A generator which yields subsequent *n*-uples from the original iterable.

### Examples

By default, any remaining items which are not sufficient to form a new tuple of length  $n$  are discarded.

```
>>> list(partition(range(8), 3))
[(0, 1, 2), (3, 4, 5)]
```

You can ask to return the remaining items at the end by setting the flag *rest* to `True`.

```
>>> list(partition(range(8), 3, rest=True))
[(0, 1, 2), (3, 4, 5), (6, 7)]
```

```
tletools.utils.dt_dt64_Y = dtype('<M8[Y]')
    numpy.dtype for a date expressed as a year.
```

```
tletools.utils.dt_td64_us = dtype('<m8[us]')
    numpy.dtype for a timedelta expressed in microseconds.
```

```
tletools.utils.rev = Unit("rev")
    astropy.units.Unit of angular measure: a full turn or rotation. It is equivalent to astropy.units.
    cycle.
```



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