

FreeFlyer Features List

FreeFlyer is available in two Editions:

- 1. FreeFlyer Engineer provides comprehensive analysis and full mission design functionality.
- 2. FreeFlyer Mission provides turnkey mission design functionality and seamless ground system integration for automated spacecraft operations.

Below you will find a product feature map showing a summary of the FreeFlyer Editions.

Edition Functionality

Spacecraft Propagation	Engineer	Mission
Fixed or variable step (step size is user-definable)	•	•
Supports nanosecond-level timing precision	•	•
Runge Kutta 4(5), 7(8), 8(9), VOP, two body, Bulirsch Stoer, J2 Mean Elements, NORAD/SP/SGP4 propagators	•	•
Planetary ephemeris (e.g. DE405, DE421, DE430)	•	•
Solar System object editor	•	•
Atmospheric drag/lift, solar radiation pressure	•	•
Atmospheric density - Analytic, Jacchia Roberts, Harris Priester, MSIS models	•	•
International Reference Ionosphere (IRI) modeling	•	•
Celestial body gravitational potential (point mass, zonals and tesserals, solid tides)	•	•
NORAD two-line elements, FreeFlyer ephemeris/state, STK ephemeris/state, SP3 Precise Ephemeris and CCSDS OEM file formats	•	•
8th and 10th order Lagrange ephemeris interpolation	•	•
User-defined parameters and formatting in FreeFlyer ephemeris file formats	•	•
Hundreds of orbit/trajectory properties calculated at each integration step	•	•
Unlimited user-defined properties using embedded math libraries or MATLAB connection	•	•
Full spacecraft mass properties modeling	•	•
Customizable spacecraft Tanks (chemical or electrical) and Thrusters (mono-propellant, bi-propellant, or electrical)	•	•
Formation/constellation modeling for unlimited numbers of objects	•	•
Mean of J2000 Earth Equator/Earth Ecliptic, True of Date Earth Equator, True Equator Mean Equinox, Earth Fixed, CelestialObject fixed reference frames	•	•
Cartesian, Keplerian/nonsingular Keplerian, Spherical/Spherical Lat/Long, Equinoctial, Modified Equinoctial, Brouwer-Lyddane Mean/J2, Brouwer-	•	•



Lyddane Mean of 1950 orbital element systems		
Launch vehicle coordinates (user-definable to launch vehicle vendor specs)	•	•
Conversion functions to convert between numerous attitude and coordinate systems	•	•
User-defined/custom coordinate systems with conversions	•	•
LVLH, Mean of J2000 Earth Equator, Geodetic, UVW, VNB, and user-defined custom attitude reference frames	•	•
Euler angles, Quaternion, Attitude matrix, Spinner attitude modeling	•	•
Attitude history file (AHF) support	•	•
Generating Output	Engineer	Mission
Full 2D and 3D visualization with customizable camera Viewpoints	•	•
Full-featured plotting library (XY and polar plots with Monitor option)	•	•
User-defined custom ASCII reports	•	•
2000+ built-in parameters available for reporting and plotting	•	•
Globe layers to support coastlines, coastal offsets, political boundaries, and user-defined line layer element sets	•	•
Unlimited user-defined parameters for reporting and plotting	•	•
GroundStation masking and sensor swath modeling	•	•
2D/3D Sensor views	•	•
ProximityZones, Regions, and PointGroups for coverage analysis	•	•
2D/3D visualization HD movie recording and image saving	•	•
Unlimited output window tiling	•	•
WatchWindow and GridWindow for configurable real-time data updates	•	•
Output layout control for controlling size and location of output windows	•	•
Pop output windows in/out of the FreeFlyer Workspace	•	•
Flexible Console Window for reporting data	•	•
GraphicsOverlay and WindowOverlay for adding custom elements to visualizations	•	•
FreeFlyer Scripting	Engineer	Mission
Object-oriented scripting language to control all aspects of a FreeFlyer Mission Plan (objects, methods, commands, conditional logic, data inputs/outputs, and custom computations)	•	•
Full-featured FreeForm scripting language editor with general programming convenience functionality such as finding all references, smart indenting, and script auto-complete	•	•
Logic to control actions based on any calculated property	•	•
For, If, While, Pause, Stop, Achieve, Target, Vary, Break, Switch, Continue commands	•	•
Drag and drop mission design sequence	•	•
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Lists of any object type and Structs of any collection of types	•	•
Batch run/Command line capability	•	•
Conversion between all supported time systems and formats	•	•
Integrated development environment control for system administrators	•	•
Integrated debugger	•	•
Any property can be set/reset real-time during execution	•	•
30+ math operators for implementing custom algorithms	•	•
Matrix math	•	•
Random Number Generator	•	•
Random and Gaussian noise distributions	•	•
Coverage and Contact Analysis	Engineer	Mission
400+ pre-defined GroundStation geodetic files and masking profiles	•	•
Custom user-defined GroundStation position and masking	•	•
Complex conic, rectangular, and user-defined sensor shapes	•	•
Sensor obscuration masking	•	•
Dynamic Sensor scanning	•	•
Complete native RF link budget analysis support	•	•
Visibility period calculations between any objects (Spacecraft-to-Spacecraft, Spacecraft-to-GroundStation, Spacecraft-to-custom ground region, etc.)	•	•
Field of view, elevation angle, azimuth angle, range, and range rate	•	•
Solar and lunar constraints, Lighting constraints, Beta angle constraints	•	•
Temporal constraints (interval, duration, GMT, mean local time)	•	•
Cross track, along track, range and range rates	•	•
Vectors to/from any object	•	•
Acquisition of Signal / Loss of Signal (AOS/LOS)	•	•
Collision avoidance calculations (customizable ProximityZones)	•	•
Sensor-to-Sensor, Sensor-to-Spacecraft, Sensor-to-GroundStation constraints	•	•
Sensor tracking	•	•
Magnetic field region modeling	•	•
Numeric and analytic Earth refraction modeling	•	•
Intersection of any vector and 3D model	•	•
BlockageDiagram contact analysis	•	•
Complete GroundVehicle propagation and analysis	•	•
Simple Motion or Waypoint propagation models for GroundVehicle objects	•	•
Mean of J2000 Earth Equator, VLT, and ENU attitude reference frames for GroundVehicle objects	•	•



GroundVehicle objects		
Maneuvering and Targeting	Engineer	Mission
Impulsive and finite maneuver modeling	•	•
Maneuver targeting with differential correction algorithms	•	•
Dynamic configuration of the Targeter for resetting initial guesses and use within conditional For/If/While loops	•	•
Support for standard chemical and low-thrust propulsion systems	•	•
Thruster outgassing event modeling	•	•
Interplanetary Analysis	Engineer	Mission
SPICE Ephemeris read/write support	•	•
Full propagator control for a custom CelestialObject with a host of specific and generic interplanetary reference frames	•	•
User-defined Regions on any CelestialObject	•	•
B-plane targeting	•	•
CelestialObject interference (all planets and star catalog)	•	•
Occulting CelestialObject modeling as sphere or ellipsoid	•	•
Target CelestialObject modeling as point, sphere, or ellipsoid	•	•
User-defined GroundStation location and masking profiles on any CelestialObject	•	•
Generalized support for any Rotating Libration Point (RLP) system (L1-L5) in the Solar System	•	•
Rotating-pulsating coordinate system calculation and visualization support for interplanetary mission design	•	•
Interfacing with External Resources	Engineer	Mission
MATLAB interface	•	•
TCP/IP socket interface	•	•
Customizable graphic user interface (GUI)	•	•
Generic ASCII and Binary FileInterface for user-defined ephemeris/state and other I/O applications	•	•
ODBC database-compliant interface with transactional mode		•
Run command to spawn external applications		•
Automatic e-mail notification based on user-defined rules		•
FreeFlyer Extensions Software Development Kit (SDK) for custom force modeling, object definition, and 3rd party code integration		•
Runtime Application Program Interface (API) for for embedding FreeFlyer into an external C/C++, C#, Java, MATLAB®, or Python application		•
Orbit Determination	Engineer	Mission
Extended Kalman Filter, Batch Least Squares, Unscented Kalman Filter,		•



Customizable Batch/Kalman combinations implemented via script		•
Orbit Determination error analysis		•
Spacecraft Receivers and Transponders		•
Tracking Data Simulator		•
Tracking Data Editor with Sigma Threshold Editing that can view multiple measurement types simultaneously		•
Spacecraft covariance propagation		•
Ground-based range/range rate/azimuth/elevation tracking data		•
TDRS tracking two-way range/two-way Doppler tracking data		•
GPS point solution and pseudorange tracking data		•
Spacecraft-to-Spacecraft range/ range-rate/azimuth/elevation tracking data		•
Bilateration Ranging Transponder System (BRTS) tracking data		•
DSN 60-byte and three-way Doppler tracking data		
Spacecraft Position, Velocity, Acceleration, Cd, Cr estimation		•
Transponder delay estimation		•
Maneuver and outgassing estimation (burn magnitude and direction)		•
GroundStation location, antenna bias estimation		•
Spacecraft antenna offset modeling		•
Terrain Modeling	Engineer	Mission
Integration for modeling GroundVehicle state during propagation		•
Ability to load and evaluate multiple Terrain Data File formats		•
Occulting Terrain modeling with VisibilitySegment objects		•
Miscellaneous	Engineer	Mission
Mission Plan Wizards for quick problem setup	•	•
150+ Sample Mission Plans included	•	•
Customizable Home Screen	•	•
Auto-save Mission Plan feature	•	•
Available in Windows (FreeFlyer.exe, FF.exe, API, FreeFlyer Extensions) and Linux (FF.exe, API)	•	•
Extensive Help File with all property definitions, syntax, guides, and examples	•	•
Dedicated FreeFlyer Technical Support Team available for assistance	•	•