SIMSOPT status

- How to get involved
- Science highlights
- Software aspects
- To do
- Discussion questions





Ways to get involved with simsopt

- 100% open source. Anyone can fork the repository and edit the code. github.com/hiddenSymmetries/simsopt
- Can install via pre-compiled binaries (python "wheels"), conda package, containers (Docker, Singularity, & Shifter), or source.
- Simsopt slack channel. Let me know if you need an invite.
- Group meeting on zoom every Monday 9am Eastern. Announcements on slack #developers channel.
- Would be nice if more Hidden Symmetries team members contributed code. Please contribute!
- Lots of code has been contributed by people not funded by Simons.

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simsopt.readthedocs.io/en/latest/



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CONTENTS

Getting started

Docker container

Concepts

Defining optimization problems

Testing

Source code on GitHub

Publications

Contributing to Simsopt

EXAMPLES

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Simsopt documentation

simsopt is a framework for optimizing stellarators. The high-level routines are in python, with calls to C++ or fortran where needed for performance. Several types of components are included:

- Interfaces to physics codes, e.g. for MHD equilibrium.
- Tools for defining objective functions and parameter spaces for optimization.
- Geometric objects that are important for stellarators surfaces and curves with several available parameterizations.
- Efficient implementations of the Biot-Savart law and other magnetic field representations, including derivatives.
- Tools for parallelized finite-difference gradient calculations.

The design of **simsopt** is guided by several principles:

- Thorough unit testing, regression testing, and continuous integration.
- Extensibility: It should be possible to add new codes and terms to the objective function without editing modules that already work, i.e. the open-closed principle. This is because any edits to working code can potentially introduce bugs.
- Modularity: Physics modules that are not needed for your optimization problem do not need to be installed. For instance, to optimize SPEC equilibria, the VMEC module need not be installed.
- Flexibility: The components used to define an objective function can be re-used for applications
 other than standard optimization. For instance, a laisest objective function is a standard

Includes API documentation scraped from source code

simsopt Is fully open-source, and anyone is welcome to use it, make suggestions, and contribute.

4

Fraction of alpha particle energy lost before thermalization



Single-stage optimization of coil shapes for quasisymmetry (Giuliani et al, arXiv):



Combined VMEC+SPEC optimization for quasisymmetry + good flux surfaces (Phys Plasmas (2021))



Optimization of SPEC configurations with pressure & current for good surfaces (A Baillod et al):



Coils for precise quasisymmetry & excellent confinement (F Wechsung et al)



Fast derivative-based stochastic optimization available:

stage_two_optimization_stochastic.py
in simsopt/examples/2_Intermediate/

Optimization of near-axis configurations for quasi-isodynamic (R Jorge et al)





Candidate configurations for EPOS: (Coils by J Smoniewski)



Finite-beta optimization with self-consistent bootstrap current:







Virtual casing, BNORM replacement (D Malhotra, et al, B Medasani)



Papers that include simsopt results

- 1. M Landreman, B Medasani, F Wechsung, A Giuliani, R Jorge, and C Zhu, "SIMSOPT: A flexible framework for stellarator optimization", Journal of Open Source Software 6, 3525 (2021).
- 2. F Wechsung, A Giuliani, M Landreman, A Cerfon, and G Stadler, "Single-stage gradient-based stellarator coil design: stochastic optimization", In press, Nuclear Fusion.
- 3. M Landreman, B Medasani, and C Zhu, "Stellarator optimization for good magnetic surfaces at the same time as quasisymmetry", Physics of Plasmas 28, 092505 (2021).
- 4. A Bader, D T Anderson, M Drevlak, B J Faber, C C Hegna, S Henneberg, M Landreman, J C Schmitt, Y Suzuki, and A Ware, "Energetic particle transport in optimized stellarators", Nuclear Fusion 61, 116060 (2021).
- 5. M Landreman and E Paul, "Magnetic fields with precise quasisymmetry for plasma confinement", Physical Review Letters 128, 035001 (2022).
- 6. F Wechsung, M Landreman, A Giuliani, A Cerfon, and G Stadler, "Precise stellarator quasisymmetry can be achieved with electromagnetic coils", Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2022).
- 7. A Baillod, J Loizu, J P Graves, and M Landreman, "Stellarator optimization for good magnetic surfaces at finite β and toroidal current", Submitted.
- 8. A Giuliani, F Wechsung, M Landreman, G Stadler, and A Cerfon, "Direct computation of magnetic surfaces in Boozer coordinates and coil optimization for quasi-symmetry", Submitted.
- 9. F Wechsung, A Giuliani, M Landreman, A Cerfon, and G Stadler, "A-posteriori optimization for increasing manufacturing tolerances in stellarator coil design", Submitted.
- 10. R Jorge, G G Plunk, M Drevlak, M Landreman, J-F Lobsien, K Camacho, and P Helander, "A single-field-period quasi-isodynamic stellarator", Ready to submit.

Optimization problems are represented as a directed acyclic graph



Graph framework handles:

- Dependencies & caching
- Assembly of global state vector from free dofs
- Naming of dofs
- Chain rule for derivatives

• There is no single simsopt executable. Problem specification with a python script (not a static input file) allows flexible modes of operation: notebooks, dynamic resolution, etc.

```
mpi = MpiPartition()
vmec = Vmec("input.QH nfp2", mpi=mpi)
# Define objective function:
qs = QuasisymmetryRatioResidual(vmec, np.arange(0, 1.01, 0.1))
prob = LeastSquaresProblem.from tuples([(vmec.aspect, 6, 1),
                                         (vmec.mean iota, 0.42, 1),
                                         (qs.residuals, 0, 1)])
for step in range(4): # Optimize in 4 steps.
    # Add Fourier modes to the parameter space:
    max mode = step + 1
    vmec.boundary.fixed range(mmin=0, mmax=max mode,
                              nmin=-max mode, nmax=max mode, fixed=False)
    vmec.boundary.fix("rc(0,0)")
    # Increase code resolution:
    vmec.indata.mpol = 3 + step
    vmec.indata.ntor = vmec.indata.mpol
    # Run this optimization step:
    least squares mpi solve(prob, mpi, grad=True)
```

- There is no single simsopt executable. Problem specification with a python script (not a static input file) allows flexible modes of operation: notebooks, dynamic resolution, etc.
- Any python function can go into the objective.
- A simsopt objective function is a standard python function. Can be used by any other python function or library.
- You can optimize with any new surface discretization or coil discretization without touching any code in simsopt itself. Minimizes bugs.
- Includes both derivative-based problems with analytic/automatic-differentiation/adjoint derivatives, and derivative-free problems.
- Mix of fast analytic derivatives (e.g. Biot-Savart) with automatic-differentiation for nontime-critical parts (e.g. finite coil thickness).

91% test coverage, with Github Actions continuous integration. > 400 test cases run automatically every commit.

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To do

- Although pre-compiled binaries ("wheels" & conda packages) & containers (Docker, shifter, & singularity) help, installation can still be complicated, especially vmec/spec.
- Long wish list of objectives: Quasi-isodynamic, MHD stability, other measures of confinement, turbulent transport, etc.
- Key piece we haven't gotten to: system for calling external standalone MPI physics codes.
- Would be nice if more Hidden Symmetries team members contributed code. Please contribute!

In stage 1, final objective is very sensitive. Can we understand & resolve this?

Optimization runs differ

perturbation to initial

optimization algorithms

& surface discretizations

(RZFourier, Garabedian,

Henneberg, real-space)

17

only in random

Persists for all

tried so far

condition



Discussion questions

- We have limited person-power, so can't do everything. What should be prioritized?
- What is everybody working on with simsopt now?
- What are you planning on contributing to simsopt in the coming months?
- Are there projects/tasks someone should be hired to do?
- Possible collaborations?
- How is the Monday meeting format going?

Fraction of alpha particle energy lost before thermalization

