

nanoHUB's Sim2Ls getting started guide for tool developers

Make your research reproducible and your workflows and data FAIR

Juan Carlos Verduso, Steven Clark, Daniel Mejia, Ale Strachan*

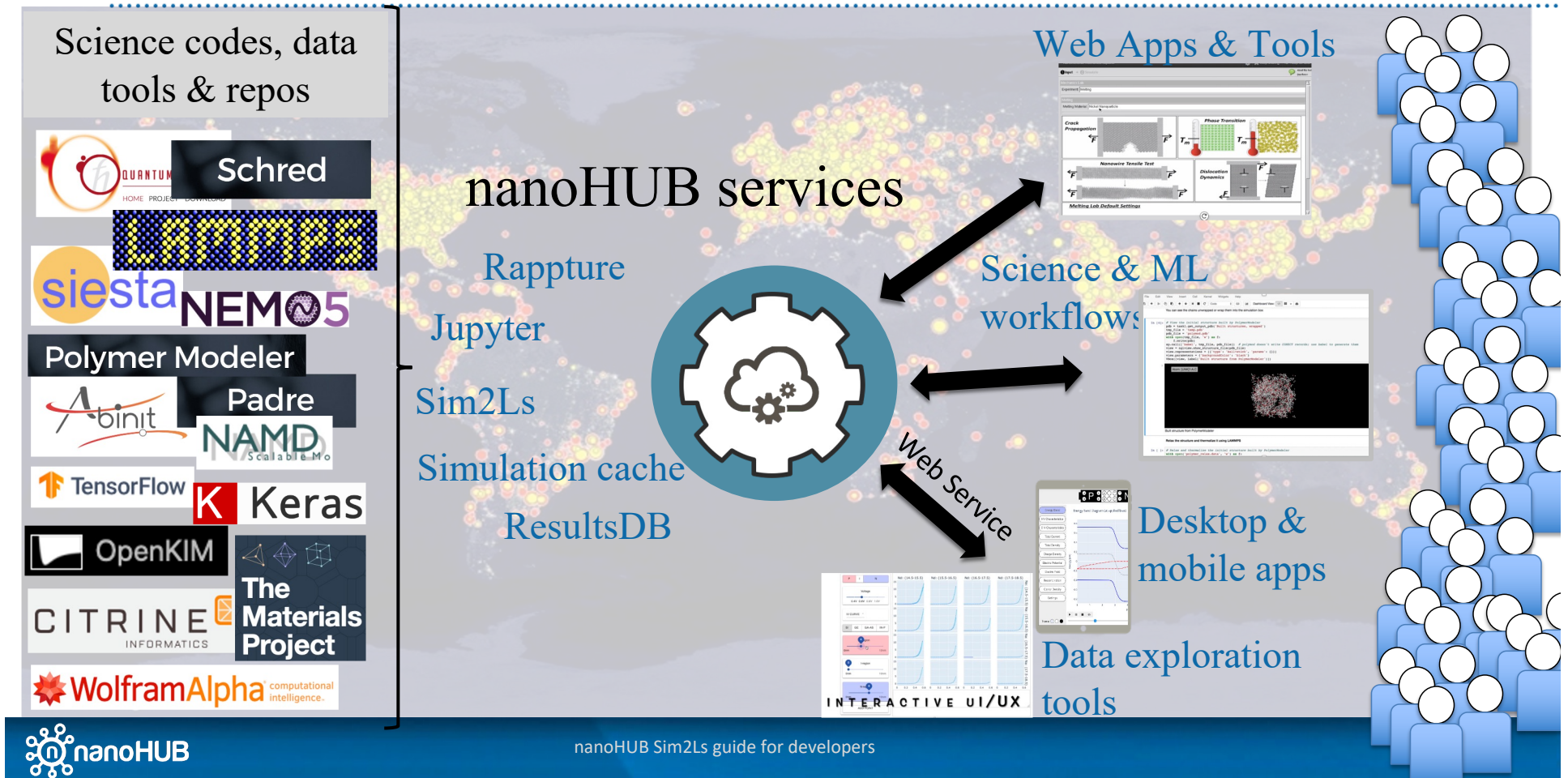
*strachan@purdue.edu

School of Materials Engineering, Purdue University

West Lafayette, Indiana USA



nanoHUB: online apps, tools, & data



Overview

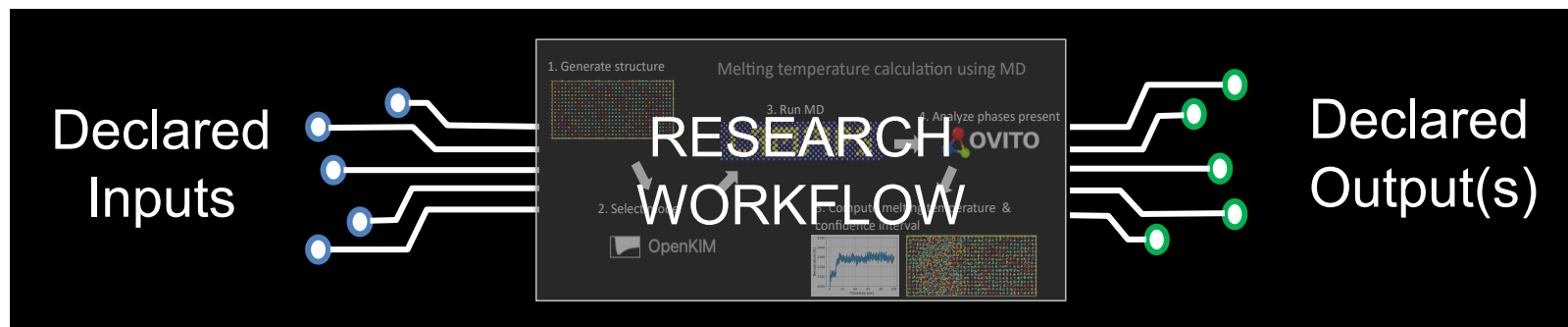
1. Why publish tools & apps in nanoHUB?
 - Tools are publications (DOIs and indexed by Web of Science)
 - Share your work with your community (22,000+ annual sim users)
2. Various tool and app types
 - Apps, workflows, Jupyter notebooks, commercial codes, X11 GUIs
3. Sim2Ls, FAIR workflows and data
 - Develop and publish Sim2Ls
4. Developing Apps
 - Connecting Sim2Ls to Jupyter and Web Apps
5. Tool Publication process
 - Register, deploy, test, and publish
6. Development environment
 - A Unix development environment (Jupyter or Linux desktop)
7. Simulation and data as a service
 - Launching tools and querying the ResultsDB

Why Sim2Ls?

- Simulation and data analysis workflows :
 - Are complex and multi-step
 - (often) involve ad-hoc or manual steps
 - (often) only partially described in publications
- Consequently:
 - Reproducing results requires significant effort, even by experts
 - Domain experts (not computational experts) cannot benefit from these workflows
 - Scientific progress and innovation are hindered
- Workflows and the results they generate are not
 - Findable, accessible, interoperable, reusable (FAIR)
 - Reproducible

What are Sim2Ls?

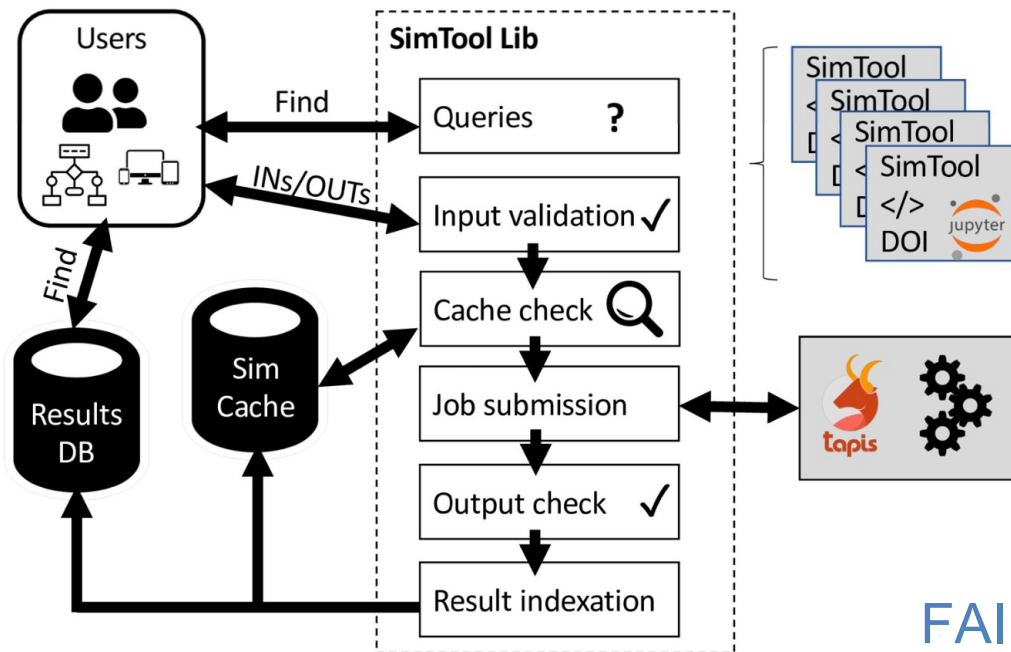
- Full end-to-end computational workflow
 - Input(s) → workflow → output(s)
 - Including all pre-processing and post-processing steps



- Simulation as a service. Launch Sim2Ls from:
 - From a GUI or App
 - From AI/ML or high-throughput workflows
 - From inside nanoHUB or outside

Hunt M, Clark S, Mejia D, Desai S, Strachan A (2022) Sim2Ls: FAIR simulation workflows and data. PLoS ONE 17(3): e0264492.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0264492>

Sim2Ls: key features



- Published Sim2Ls have DOIs and are indexed by Web Of Science
- Services (outputs) & requirements (inputs) are queryable
- Simulations are automatically stored in a cache and not re-run
- Simulation results are indexed in queryable database (ResultsDB)

FAIR workflows and data

Developing a Sim2L – Step 1: register your tool

Step 1: register your Sim2L:
<https://nanohub.org/tools/create>

Tools: Create New Tool

ABOUT YOUR TOOL:

Tool Name: **REQUIRED**
sim2ldemo
Short name, used for the directory containing this tool. Example: qdot

Title: **REQUIRED**
Sim2L demo for developers
Full name for this tool. Example: Quantum Dot Lab

Version:
1.0
Optional version number for this release of the tool. Example: 1.0 or 2.1.5b. Spaces not allowed.

At a glance: **REQUIRED**
This tools shows a simple example of a Sim2L to help developers get started
A one-line description of your tool. Example: Simulate 3-D confined states in simple quantum dot geometries.

SUGGESTED SCREEN SIZE:
W 780 x H 600
Specify a screen size for your application in pixels.

REPOSITORY HOST:

Host subversion repository on HUB

Host GIT repository on HUB
GIT in nanoHUB (suggested)

Host GIT repository on GitHub

PUBLISHING OPTION:

Rapture or Linux-GUI based tool

Jupyter notebook

SimTool
Sim2L

ACCESS:

Tool Access: **REQUIRED** What should I choose?
Anyone can run tool

Source Code Access: **REQUIRED** What should I choose?
Open source (anyone can access code)

Project Area Access: **REQUIRED** What should I choose?
Open to public

Development team: **REQUIRED**
strachan

nanohub.org logins for people allowed to modify your code. Example: mylogin, fred, barney, wilma

Click Register

Developing a Sim2L – Step 1: register your tool

Your tool is registered, you can start working on it

<https://nanohub.org/tools/sim2ldemo/status>

The screenshot shows the nanoHUB tool status page for 'sim2ldemo'. At the top, the status is 'Registered' and 'Created'. Below this, there is a 'Tool Information' section with fields for Title, Version, Description, VNC geometry, Repository Host Type, Tool execution, Source code, Project area, Publishing Option, and Development team. To the right, there is a 'What's next?' section with instructions on how to start using the project area, including links to learn more about uploading source code, the Rappture toolkit, and nanoHUB's software development environment. Below that is a 'We are waiting for You' section with a checklist of remaining steps before the tool can be published, such as 'Register your tool on nanoHUB.org', 'Commit the final code for this version', 'Make the page that describes your tool', 'Test and approve your tool', and 'Publish your tool so that others can see it on nanohub.org/'.

Go to the project area and start working

When you are done and committed your ready-to-test code click here (you will be able to further test it before it is deployed to the public)

Developing a Sim2L – Step 2: clone your tool's repo

Step 2: clone the git repo in your nanoHUB workspace

Instructions at: <https://nanohub.org/tools/sim2demo/wiki> (click on Getting Started)

wiki: [GettingStarted](#)

New Developers

Welcome, new developer! This page will help you get started using this site to help us develop Sim2L demo for developers.

Getting the Code

First step is to download the Sim2L demo for developers development code. To do this, you'll need [https://git-scm.com git], and MacOSX.

Once git is installed, you can download Sim2L demo for developers as follows: **Tool name**

```
% git clone https://nanohub.org/tools/sim2demo/git/sim2demo
```

The `clone` command makes a local copy of the entire Sim2L demo for developers source tree into your current working directory.

Making Changes

Once you've downloaded the code, you can make whatever changes you like. For example, you might edit a file to fix a bug or

```
% cd sim2demo
% git add .
% git commit --message "fixed my first bug!"
% git push
```

It's best to commit at the top of the source tree--that's why we said "`cd sim2demo`" in the example above. When you commit, pushing a change makes it permanent. Once pushed, other developers will see the change. If for some reason, you want to throw away your changes, you can use the `reset` command.

If you want to add a new file or directory to your distribution, you can use the `add` command:

```
% git add README.txt
% git commit --message "made my first addition"
```

Like any other change, the file is not really added until the next `push` operation.

Similarly, if you want to remove a file or directory from your distribution, you can use the `delete` command:

nanoHUB Sim2Ls guide for developers

Your tool name

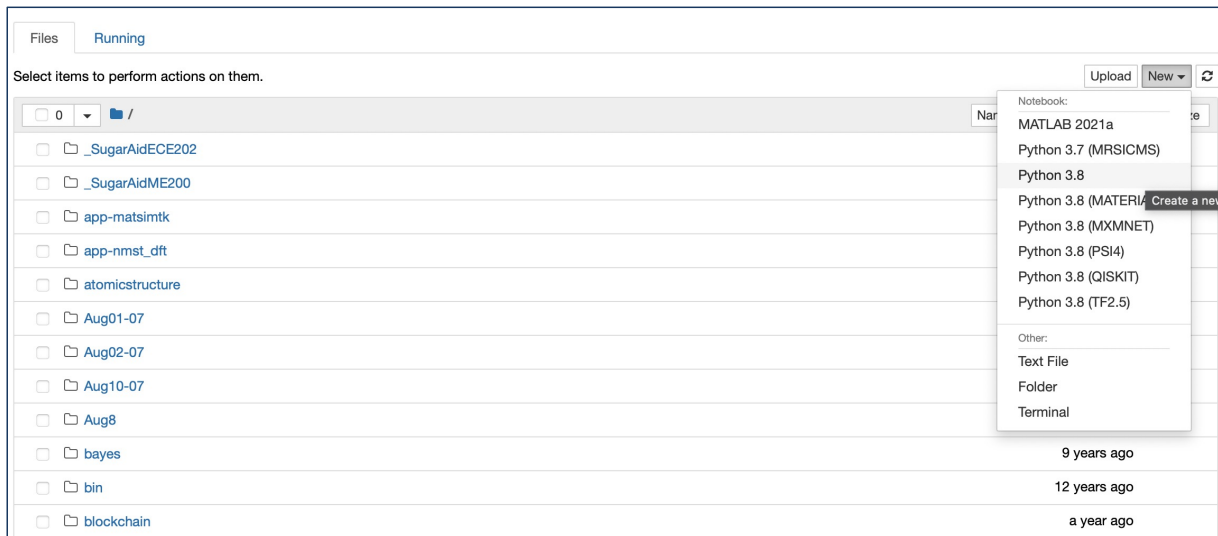
Clone the automatically created GIT repo

Follow the instructions to make changes and commit them using GIT

Developing a Sim2L – Step 2: clone your tool's repo

Step 2: clone the git repo in your nanoHUB workspace

2.1 Launch Jupyter in nanoHUB: <https://nanohub.org/tools/jupyter70>



Start a terminal
and/or a python
kernel

Developing a Sim2L – Step 3: work on your tool

```
strachan@nanohub_2092293_14:~$ git clone https://nanohub.org/tools/sim2ldemo/git/sim2ldemo
Cloning into 'sim2ldemo'...
remote: Counting objects: 12, done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (8/8), done.
remote: Total 12 (delta 1), reused 0 (delta 0)
Unpacking objects: 100% (12/12), done.
strachan@nanohub_2092293_14:~$ cd sim2ldemo/
strachan@nanohub_2092293_14:~/sim2ldemo$
```

Clone and check out the directory structure and template files

Two key files are created:

- `simtool/sim2ldemo.ipynb`
(actual Sim2L workflow)
- `sim2ldemoExample.ipynb`
(execution notebook to invoke the Sim2L)

```
strachan@nanohub_2092293_14:~/sim2ldemo$ ls -ltr
total 8
-rw-r--r-- 1 strachan public 205 Oct 10 12:44 README.md
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 27 Oct 10 12:44 bin
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 27 Oct 10 12:44 data
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 27 Oct 10 12:44 doc
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 27 Oct 10 12:44 examples
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 28 Oct 10 12:44 middleware
-rw-r--r-- 1 strachan public 1773 Oct 10 12:44 sim2ldemoExample.ipynb
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 54 Oct 10 12:44 simtool
drwxr-xr-x 2 strachan public 30 Oct 10 12:44 src
strachan@nanohub_2092293_14:~/sim2ldemo$ ls -ltr simtool/
total 4
-rw-r--r-- 1 strachan public 3087 Oct 10 12:44 sim2ldemo.ipynb
strachan@nanohub_2092293_14:~/sim2ldemo$
```

Developing a Sim2L – Step 3: Sim2L notebook (part 1)

```
In [ ]: DESCRIPTION x
DESCRIPTION = """This tools shows a simple example of a Sim2L to help developers get started. The example solves the Lorenz system."""

In [ ]: %load_ext yamlmagic

In [ ]: from simtool import DB
import numpy as np
from scipy.integrate import solve_ivp

Declare inputs ¶
After importing libraries, developers should define all inputs to the workflows that users will be able to modify. Select the appropriate type of input and include descriptive metadata:
• Description (this is a queryable field, be clear so others can understand requirements of your tool)
• Value: use this to set the default value for each input
• Range: for certain input types, users can specify ranges to limit numerical parameters to meaningful values
• Units: you can specify units and the Sim2Ls library will perform automated unit conversion using pint (see https://pint.readthedocs.io/en/stable/)
A list of all input types can be found in this Sim2L: https://nanohub.org/tools/introtosimtools

In [ ]: %yamll INPUTS
attractor_sigma:
  description: Sigma parameter of the Lorenz attractor
  type: Number
  value: 10
  min: 0.1
  max: 25

attractor_rho:
  description: Rho parameter of the Lorenz attractor
  type: Number
  value: 28
  min: 0.1
  max: 40

attractor_beta:
  description: Beta parameter of the Lorenz attractor
  type: Number
  value: 3
  min: 0.1
  max: 50

attractor_initial_x:
  description: Initial X-coordinate
  type: Number
  value: 5
  min: -10
  max: 10

attractor_initial_y:
  description: Initial Y-coordinate
  type: Number
  value: 5
  min: -10
  max: 10

attractor_initial_z:
  description: Initial Z-coordinate
  type: Number
  value: 5
  min: -10
  max: 10
```

Sim2L template in the `simtool/` folder

1. A description is required and queryable

2. Declare all inputs (include descriptions and units if applicable)

(Possible input types: Boolean, Integer, Number, Array, Text, Choice, List, Dictionary, Image, and Element)

Check out

<https://nanohub.org/tools/introtosimtools>

for examples of all input types

Developing a Sim2L – Step 3: Sim2L notebook (part 2)

Declare outputs

Explicitly declare all outputs for your Sim2Ls. These will be indexed (together with the inputs) in nanoHUB's ResultsDB

```
%%yaml OUTPUTS
attractor_x_trajectory:
  type: Array
  description: Trajectory over time in X
attractor_y_trajectory:
  type: Array
  description: Trajectory over time in Y
attractor_z_trajectory:
  type: Array
  description: Trajectory over time in Z
```

3. Declare all outputs (include descriptions)
(Same types as inputs)

Parameterize Sim2L

The cell below needs to be included and tagged "parameters"

```
parameters x
# The parameters cell should have the code below. This enables the Sim2Ls library to "inject" the selected parameters
from simtool import getValidatedInputs
defaultInputs = getValidatedInputs(INPUTS)
if defaultInputs:
    globals().update(defaultInputs)
```

4. This cell is used to inject the parameters when the Sim2L is invoked (leave it as is)

5. Write your workflow connecting inputs to outputs

6. Assign output variables by creating a database object

```
#hard coded parameters
tmax = 200
num_steps = 20000
```

```
FILES x
EXTRA_FILES = []
```

Write your workflow

Assign output variables

Initialize the output variables using the DB command Use db.save to assign values to ALL your output variables

```
db = DB(OUTPUTS)
```

```
db.save('attractor_x_trajectory', x_traj)
db.save('attractor_y_trajectory', y_traj)
db.save('attractor_z_trajectory', z_traj)
```

Developing a Sim2L – Step 3: execution notebook (Part 1)

This is the file that will be launched when the tool is run in nanoHUB
This notebook should set inputs, invoke the Sim2L itself, display outputs

Several options:

- A plain notebook that sets inputs and displays outputs
- A GUI (using widgets), see <https://ipywidgets.readthedocs.io/en/stable/>
- An AI/ML or high throughput workflow that launches the Sim2L as needed

Developing a Sim2L – Step 3: execution notebook (Part 2)

```
# Import the sim2L library and other auxiliary packages
from simtool import findInstalledSimToolNotebooks, searchForSimTool
from simtool import getSimToolInputs, getSimToolOutputs, Run

import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import os
import ipywidgets as widgets
import plotly.graph_objects as go

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

Find the Sim2L you want to run & explore its inputs & outputs

```
##### SimTool Inputs and Outputs #####
# Sim2L Instance
demo = searchForSimTool("sim2ldemo")

# # Creating Inputs Object
inputs = getSimToolInputs(demo)
print(inputs)

# # Printing Expected Outputs
outputs = getSimToolOutputs(demo)
print(outputs)
```

Parameterize the Sim2L

- Default values will be used for inputs not explicitly specified
- Note that the Sim2Ls library checks that all inputs fall within the range established by the developer
- Sim2Ls also checks and converts units

```
inputs.attractor_beta.value = 8/3
inputs.attractor_rho.value = 28
inputs.attractor_sigma.value = 10

inputs.attractor_initial_x.value = 0
inputs.attractor_initial_y.value = 1
inputs.attractor_initial_z.value = 1.05
```

Run the Sim2L

- The simulation cache will be checked and your run either executed or pulled from the cache

```
r = Run(demo, inputs)
r.getResultSummary()
```

1. Identify the Sim2L you want to execute
The tool can be published or under development

2. Check inputs and outputs
Get a list of all inputs and outputs

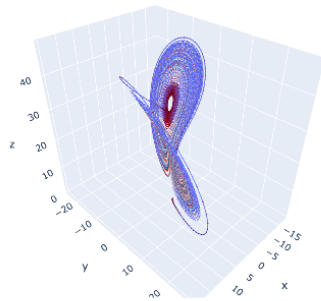
3. Set parameters
The Sim2Ls library checks that parameters fall within the ranges established by the developer

4. Run the Sim2L

Developing a Sim2L – Step 3: execution notebook (Part 2)

Analyze/visualize your results

```
def plot_attractor(x_traj, y_traj, z_traj):  
    trace = go.Scatter3d(x=x_traj, y=y_traj, z=z_traj, mode='lines+markers', marker=dict(color=List(range(len(x_traj))), cmin = 0, cmax = len(x_traj), colorscale='RdBu', size=1))  
    fig = go.FigureWidget(data=[trace])  
    fig.update_layout(width=600, height=600)  
    fig.show()  
  
x_t = np.array(r.read('attractor_x_trajectory'))  
y_t = np.array(r.read('attractor_y_trajectory'))  
z_t = np.array(r.read('attractor_z_trajectory'))  
plot_attractor(x_t, y_t, z_t)
```



5. Get results, analyze, and visualize

Publishing a Sim2L

When you are done, just let the nanoHUB team know

<https://nanohub.org/tools/sim2ldemo/status>

The screenshot shows the nanoHUB tool status page for 'sim2ldemo'. At the top, the status is 'Created'. Below this, there is a 'Tool Information' section with fields for Title, Version, Description, VNC geometry, Repository Host Type, Tool execution, Source code, Project area, Publishing Option, and Development team. To the right, there is a 'What's next?' section with instructions on how to proceed, including links to the nanoFORGE project area and instructions on how to upload source code. Below this, there is a 'We are waiting for You' section with a list of remaining steps before the tool can be published. A red arrow points from the text 'Click here' to the link 'My code is committed, working, and ready to be installed' in the 'We are waiting for You' section.

status: Registered **Created** Uploaded Installed Approved Published

This tool is one of 775 tools under development on nanoHUB.org.

Tool Information edit

Title	Sim2L demo for developers (sim2ldemo - id #2055)
Version	This version 1.0 (under development)
At a glance	This tools shows a simple example of a Sim2L to help developers get started
Description	Preview Edit description page
VNC geometry	780x600
Repository Host Type	gitLocal
Tool execution	open to public
Source code	open source
Project area	open to public
Publishing Option	simtool
Development team	strachan

Developer Tools

[History](#) [Wiki](#) [Source](#) [Timeline](#) [Message](#) [Cancel](#)

What's next?

The nanoHUB.org team has created the following project area for your tool on the nanoFORGE:
<https://nanohub.org/tools/sim2ldemo/wiki>

Follow these steps to start using your project area:

- [Learn more about uploading source code into your project area and how the directories are arranged](#)
- [Learn more About the Rapture toolkit.](#)
- [Learn about nanoHUB's software development environment](#)

When you are ready, [Follow these instructions](#) to access the source code repository for your specific project and upload your code.

We are waiting for You

Once your source code has been uploaded into your project area, [click here](#) to let us know:

- [My code is committed, working, and ready to be installed](#)

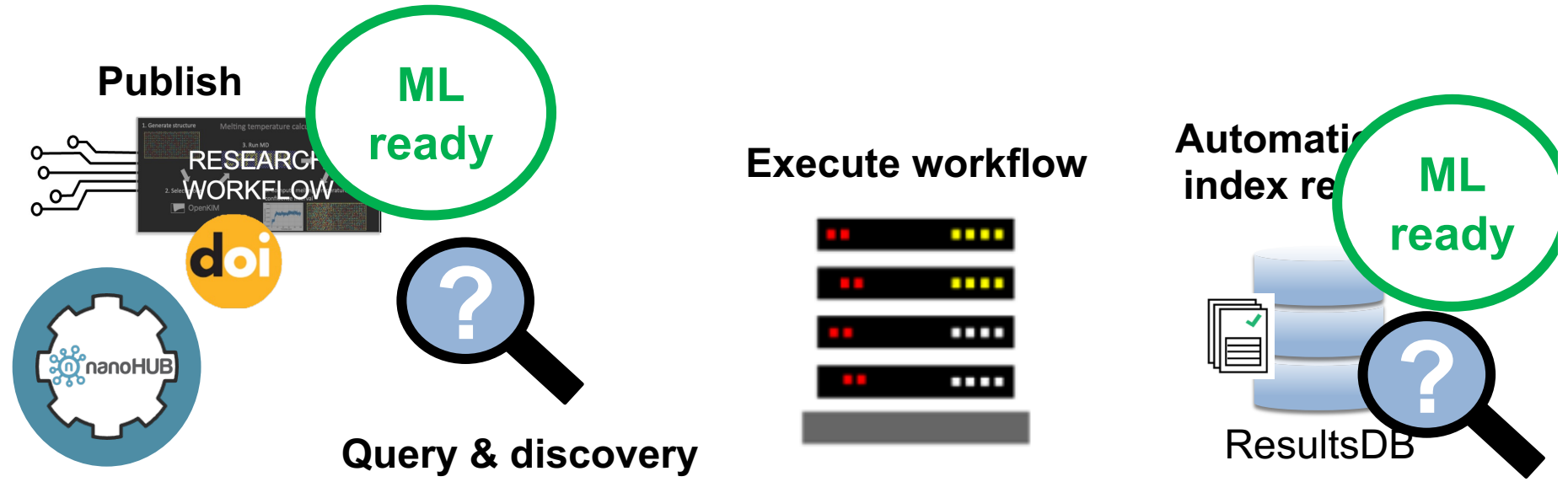
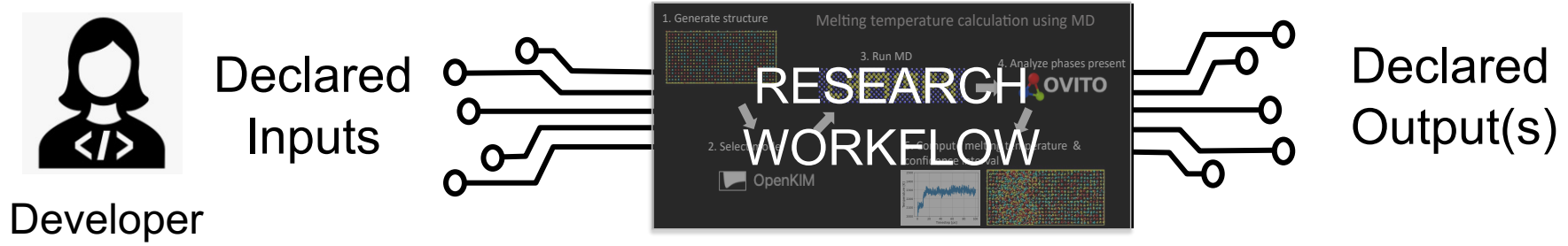
Remaining steps before we can publish your tool:

- [Register your tool on nanoHUB.org](#)
- Commit the final code for this version. I've done this
[How do I do this?](#)
- [Make the page that describes your tool. Create this page...](#)
- Test and approve your tool
- Publish your tool so that others can see it on nanohub.org/

Click here

The nanoHUB team will stage the tool and you will be able to test it and make changes if needed before publication

Workflow and data are FAIR and ML-ready



Sim2L example: MD simulations of melting temperature

The screenshot shows the nanoHUB interface for the tool 'High Entropy Alloy Melting Point Calculation'. The header includes the nanoHUB logo and navigation links: RESOURCES, EXPLORE, NANOHUB-U, PARTNERS, COMMUNITY, ABOUT, SUPPORT, DONATE, TAKE A POLL, Login, Sign Up, Help, Search. The breadcrumb trail is Home > Tools > High Entropy Alloy Melting Point Calculation > About. The tool title is 'High Entropy Alloy Melting Point Calculation'. The authors are Zachary D McClure¹, Saaketh Desai¹, and Alejandro Strachan¹, with affiliation '1. Purdue University'. A 'Launch Tool' button is present. The version is 1.6, published on 01 Sep 2021, with DOI: 10.21981/ER9D-MM30. There are links for 'Open source: license | download' and 'View All Supporting Documents'. A statistics box shows 108 users, 0 citations, 0 questions, 0 reviews, and 0 wishes. A green circle with 'ML ready' is overlaid on the right side of the screenshot. Below the tool title is a tabbed menu with 'About' selected. The category is 'Tools' and it was published on '01 Sep 2021'. The abstract describes the tool's function: calculating the melting point of high entropy alloys through a phase coexistence method using constant enthalpy simulation.

Inputs:

- Alloy composition
- Simulation details

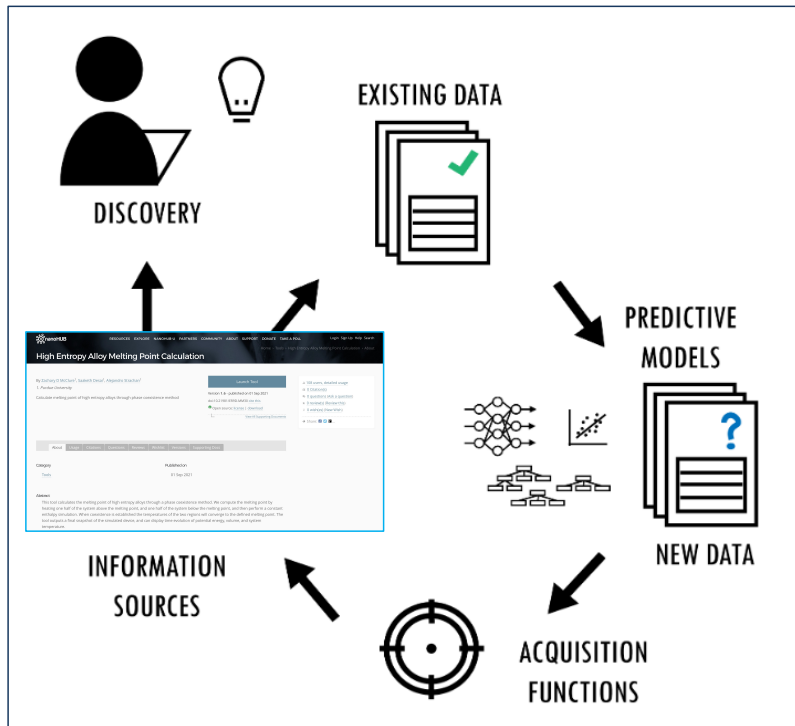
Outputs:

- Convergence
- Predicted melting temp
- Confidence interval

<https://nanohub.org/tools/meltheas>

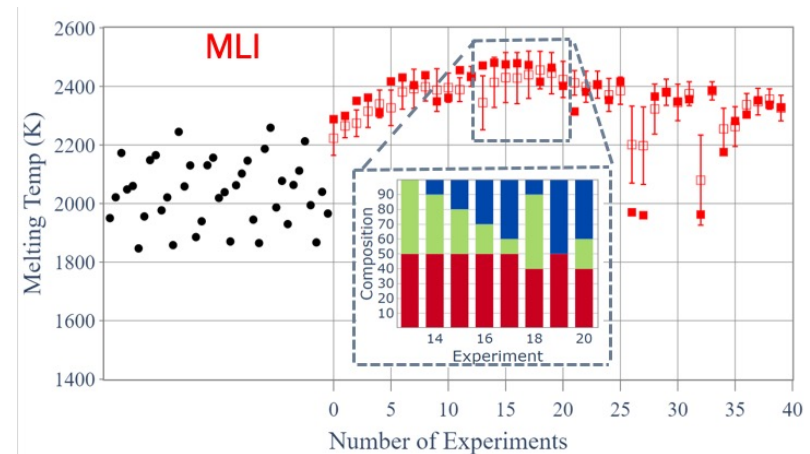
Sim2L example: launching a Sim2L from an AI/ML workflow

Autonomous ML workflow driving physics-based sims



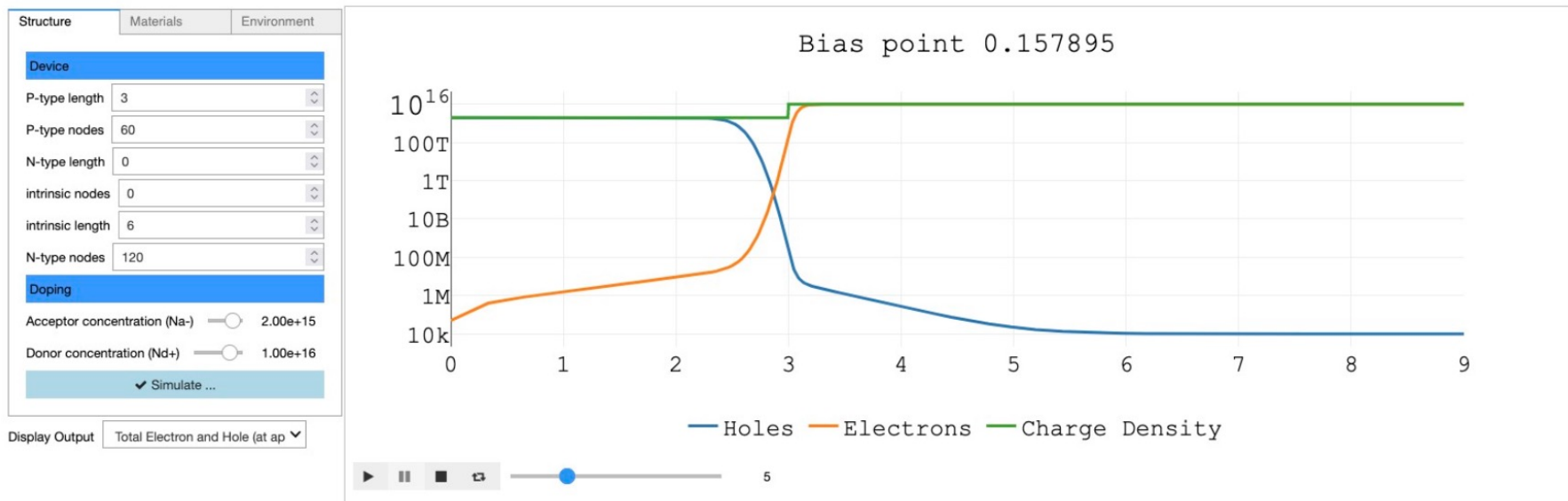
Find a high-entropy alloy with the highest melting temperature

~15 simulations out of 544



<https://nanohub.org/tools/activemeltheas>

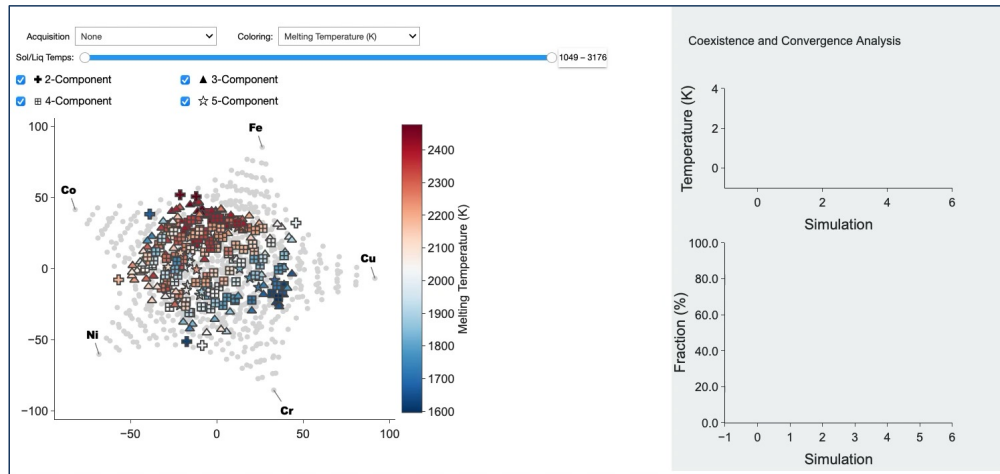
Sim2L example: an App running a Sim2L



<https://nanohub.org/tools/st4pnjunction>

Exploring the ResultsDB

Every successful Sim2L run from published tools is indexed in the ResultsDB



[nanoHUB.org/tools/meltdashboard](https://nanohub.org/tools/meltdashboard)

This App explores the runs of the meltHEAs Sim2L

Temperatures are plotted in a 2D representation of the 5-element space

Panel on the right shows the individual results for each alloy

Documentation on the ResultsDB available at:

<https://nanohub.org/developer/api/endpoint/dbexplorer>

Additional resources

- Sim2Ls: FAIR simulation workflows and data Martin Hunt, Steven Clark, Daniel Mejia, Saaketh Desai, Alejandro Strachan. PLOS ONE. 2022 Mar 10;17(3):e0264492. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0264492>
- Documentation: <https://simtool.readthedocs.io/en/stable/>
- Additional information with hands-on information: <https://youtu.be/7KHwJdJwtxc>