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# **simulations Documentation**

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Contents

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Base framework for running and analyzing gametheory simulations

Modules:

**base** Handles generic set-up tasks for EventEmitter-derived classes

**simulation** Handles defining simulations

**simulation\_runner** Handles running simulations

**statsparser** Handles analyzing simulation output

Packages:

**dynamics** Base implementations of various dynamics

**utils** Has utility modules



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**base**

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Handles basic functionality shared by a number of other modules

Classes:

**Base** Handles basic `__init__` and listener patterns shared among several classes

Decorators:

**listener()** A class decorator adding a listener without disrupting `_add_listeners()`

**once()** A class decorator adding a once-only listener without disrupting `_add_listeners()`

**withoptions()** A class decorator adding basic OptionParser functionality

**class** simulations.base.**Base** (\*args, \*\*kwdargs)

Bases: simulations.utils.eventemitter.EventEmitter

The base class that handles common functionality from which other EventEmitter classes are derived

Keyword Parameters:

**default\_handlers** If true or not present, adds the default handlers defined in `Base._add_default_listeners()`

**\_add\_default\_listeners()**

Sets up default listeners for various events (should implement)

**\_add\_listeners()**

Set up listeners for various events (should implement)

**add\_listener** (*event, listener=None*)

Adds a listener to an event

Parameters:

**event** the event to listen for

**listener** the handler for the event (should be a function / callable)

**emit** (*event, \*args, \*\*kwargs*)

Emit an event, triggering the handlers on it with certain arguments

Parameters:

**event** the event to trigger

**args** arguments to pass to the triggered listeners

**kwargs** keyword arguments to pass to the triggered listeners

**listeners** (*event*)

Gets a COPY of the list of listeners on an event

Parameters:

**event** the event for which to lookup the listeners

**max\_errstr = ""**  
**WARNING: Possible EventEmitter memory leak:**  
**{0} listeners added for {1}. Use set\_max\_listeners**

**on** (\**args*)

Alias for add\_listener

**once** (*event, listener=None*)

**Add a listener, but only execute it the first time the event** occurs, then remove it

Parameters:

**event** the event to listen for

**listener** the listener function / callable

**remove\_all\_listeners** (*event*)

Clears all listeners from an event

Parameters:

**event** the event to clear listeners from

**remove\_listener** (*event, listener=None*)

Remove a listener from an event

Parameters:

**event** the event from which to remove it

**listener** the handler to remove

**set\_max\_listeners** (*max\_listeners*)

Set the maximum number of listeners for each event.

Parameters:

**max\_listeners** the maximum number of listeners allowed (None for no limit)

**simulations.base.listener** (*event, handler*)

Class decorator to add listeners in a brief way

This is effectively the same as adding a call to `add_listener()` in `_add_listeners()`.

Parameters:

**event** the name of the event to listen for

**handler** the event handler

**simulations.base.once** (*event, handler*)

Class decorator to handle once-listeners in a brief way.

This is effectively the same as adding a call to `once()` in `_add_listeners()`.

Parameters:

**event** the name of the event to listen for

**handler** the event handler

`simulations.base.withoptions()`

A class wrapper that handles using an OptionParser

Adds Keyword Parameters:

**option\_error\_handler** An error handler for the OptionParser

**option\_exit\_handler** An exit handler for the OptionParser

Adds Events:

**oparser set up** emitted after the OptionParser is set up and able to add options



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## simulation

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Handle the basics of running parallel simulations

Classes:

**Simulation** Framework for a basic simulation

**class** simulations.simulation.**Simulation**(*data*, *iteration*, *outfile*, \**args*, \*\**kwdargs*)  
Bases: simulations.base.Base

Base class for an individual simulation

Parameters:

**data** The data dictionary for the simulation. Usually created by the SimulationRunner

**iteration** The iteration number of the simulation. Usually handled by the SimulationRunner

**outfile** The name of a file to which to dump output (or None, indicating stdout)

Public Methods:

**run()** Runs the simulation

**set\_output\_file()** Sets the output file name

Methods to Implement:

**\_add\_listeners()** Set up listeners for various simulation events

**\_run()** Actual simulation functionality

Events:

**done(this)** emitted when run() is complete and results have been stored

**outfile changed(this)** emitted when the outfile name has been changed by set\_output\_file()

**outfile error(this)** emitted when there was an error opening the output file

**run(this)** emitted just before \_run() is called

**\_add\_listeners()**

Sets up listeners for various events

**\_run(\*args, \*\*kwdargs)**

Actual functionality for running the simulation (should implement)

**run()**

Runs the simulation. Handles opening and closing the out file object.

**set\_output\_file (fname)**

Sets the name of the outfile

Parameters:

**fname** The file name for the outfile (or None or False)

**simulations.simulation.\_close\_out\_fd (this)**

Closes the `Simulation.out` object that simulations should print to

Parameters:

**this** A reference to a `Simulation` instance

**simulations.simulation.\_open\_out\_fd (this)**

Opens the `Simulation.out` object that simulations should print to

Parameters:

**this** A reference to a `Simulation` instance

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## simulation\_runner

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Handler for running simulations in a multiprocessing environment

Classes:

**SimulationRunner** Handles option parsing and a pp server pool for simulations

Functions:

**default\_pool\_handler()** Default handler for ‘pool started’ events

**default\_start\_handler()** Default handler for ‘start’ events

**default\_result\_handler()** Default handler for ‘result’ events

**run\_simulation()** runs a simulation task

**class simulations.simulation\_runner.SimulationRunner(\*args, \*\*kwdargs)**  
Bases: simulations.base.Base

Handles option parsing and a multiprocessing pool for simulations

Parameters:

**simulation\_class** The class representing the Simulation to run

Keyword Parameters:

**default\_handlers** Flag to set default event handlers for some events (default True)

**option\_error\_handler** An error handler for the OptionParser

**option\_exit\_handler** An exit handler for the OptionParser

Public Methods:

**go()** Kick off the batch of simulations

Methods to Implement:

**\_add\_listeners()** Set up event listeners for run events

Events:

**done(this)** emitted when results are totally done

**go(this)** emitted when the go() method is called

**made output\_dir(this)** emitted if/when the output directory needs to be created

**oparser set up(this)** emitted after the OptionParser is set up and able to add options

**options parsed(this)** emitted after the OptionParser has parsed arguments

```
pool started(this, pool) emitted after the multiprocessing.Pool is set up
result(this, result) emitted when a result is complete
start(this) emitted just before the pool imap_unordered() is called

_add_default_listeners()
Sets up default listeners for various events

Events Handled:
•pool started - default_pool_handler()
•start - default_start_handler()
•result - default_result_handler()

_check_base_options()
Verify the values passed to the base options

Checks:
•Number of duplications is positive
•Pool size is positive, if specified

_set_base_options()
Set up the basic OptionParser options. Calling this is handled by the decorator
simulations.base.withoptions()

Options:
-D, --nofiledump Do not dump individual simulation output
-F STRING, --filename=STRING Format string for file name of individual duplication
output
-N NUM, --duplications=NUM Number of trials to run
-O DIR, --output=DIR Directory to which to output the results
-P NUM, --poolsize=NUM Number of simultaneous trials
-Q, --quiet Suppress all output except aggregate pickle dump
-S FILE, --statsfile=FILE File name for aggregate, pickled output

go(**kwargs)
Verify options and run the batch of simulations

Keyword Parameters:
option_args arguments to pass to the OptionParser. Defaults to sys.argv[1:].
option_values target to put the values from the OptionParser in (probably should not use)

simulations.simulation_runner.default_pool_handler(this, pool, out=None)
Default handler for the 'pool started' event

Parameters:
this a reference to a SimulationRunner instance
pool the multiprocessing.Pool that was started
out the file descriptor to print to
```

`simulations.simulation_runner.default_result_handler(this, result, out=None)`

Default handler for the ‘result’ event

Parameters:

**this** a reference to a SimulationRunner instance

**result** the result object from the Simulation

**out** the file descriptor to print to

`simulations.simulation_runner.default_start_handler(this, out=None)`

Default handler for the ‘start’ event

Parameters:

**this** a reference to a SimulationRunner instance

**out** the file descriptor to print to

`simulations.simulation_runner.run_simulation(task)`

A simple function to run a Simulation. Used with the multiprocessing pool.

Parameters:

**task** An instance of a Simulation to run



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## statsparser

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Handle the parsing and aggregation of simulation results

Classes:

**StatsParser** main statistics parsing class

**class simulations.statsparser.StatsParser(\*args, \*\*kwdargs)**  
Bases: simulations.base.Base

Base class for parsing result files.

Keyword Parameters:

**option\_error\_handler** An error handler for the OptionParser

**option\_exit\_handler** An exit handler for the OptionParser

Public Methods:

**go()** Kick off parsing the results

Methods to Implement:

**\_add\_listeners()** Add listeners for various parsing events

Events:

**done(this, out)** emitted when results are totally done

**go(this)** emitted when the go () method is called

**oparser set up(this)** emitted after the OptionParser is set up and able to add options

**options parsed(this)** emitted after the OptionParser has parsed arguments

**result(this, out, duplication, result)** emitted when a result is ready to be interpreted

**result options(this, out, options)** emitted when the simulation runner options are ready to be interpreted

**\_check\_base\_options()**

Verify the values passed to the base options

Checks:

- Stats file exists

**\_go (statsfile, out)**

Actually parses the data

Parameters:

**statsfile** a file object for the file to parse

**out** the output target (either a file object or sys.stdout)

**\_set\_base\_options()**

Set up the basic OptionParser options

Options:

**-F FILE, --statsfile=FILE** File name of the results file

**-O FILE, --outfile=FILE** File to which to print data

**-V, --verbose** Print detailed output to stdout as things are processed

**go (\*\*kwdargs)**

Pass off the parsing of the results file after some data manipulation

Keyword Parameters:

**option\_args** arguments to pass to the OptionParser. Defaults to sys.argv[1:].

**option\_values** target of option parsing (probably should not use)

## **dynamics**

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Framework implementations for running simulations with various dynamics

Modules:

**discrete\_replicator** Implements a generic discrete replicator dynamics. You should probably not use this directly.

**generation\_machine** Implements a generation-stepping machine. You should probably not use this directly.

**npop\_discrete\_replicator** Implements n-population discrete time replicator dynamics

**onepop\_discrete\_replicator** Implements 1-population discrete time replicator dynamics

### **5.1 discrete\_replicator**

### **5.2 generation\_machine**

### **5.3 npop\_discrete\_replicator**

### **5.4 onepop\_discrete\_replicator**



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**utils**

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A package containing utilities for use elsewhere

Modules:

**eventemitter** Implements an EventEmitter model

**fake\_server** Implements a fake pp-like server interface for running things one-at-a-time (not used)

**functions** Contains utility functions

**optionparser** Extends optparse.OptionParser to add error and exit handlers

## 6.1 eventemitter

A port of the node.js EventEmitter functionality

Classes:

**EventEmitter** implements the event emitter functionality

**class simulations.utils.eventemitter.EventEmitter**

Bases: object

Handles event emitting and listening

Public Methods:

**add\_listener()** add a listener for an event

**on()** alias for add\_listener()

**once()** adds a listener, but only executes it once, then it is removed

**emit()** trigger the listeners for an event

**remove\_listener()** remove a listener from an event

**remove\_all\_listeners()** remove all listeners from an event

**listeners()** get a copy of the listeners on an event

**set\_max\_listeners()** set the maximum number of listeners for an event before warnings are issued (default: 10, None for no limit)

**add\_listener(event, listener=None)**

Adds a listener to an event

Parameters:

**event** the event to listen for

**listener** the handler for the event (should be a function / callable)

**emit** (*event*, \**args*, \*\**kwargs*)

Emit an event, triggering the handlers on it with certain arguments

Parameters:

**event** the event to trigger

**args** arguments to pass to the triggered listeners

**kwargs** keyword arguments to pass to the triggered listeners

**listeners** (*event*)

Gets a COPY of the list of listeners on an event

Parameters:

**event** the event for which to lookup the listeners

**max\_errstr** = ""  
WARNING: Possible EventEmitter memory leak:  
{0} listeners added for {1}. Use set\_max\_listeners

**on** (\**args*)

Alias for add\_listener

**once** (*event*, *listener=None*)

Add a listener, but only execute it the first time the **event** occurs, then remove it

Parameters:

**event** the event to listen for

**listener** the listener function / callable

**remove\_all\_listeners** (*event*)

Clears all listeners from an event

Parameters:

**event** the event to clear listeners from

**remove\_listener** (*event*, *listener=None*)

Remove a listener from an event

Parameters:

**event** the event from which to remove it

**listener** the handler to remove

**set\_max\_listeners** (*max\_listeners*)

Set the maximum number of listeners for each event.

Parameters:

**max\_listeners** the maximum number of listeners allowed (None for no limit)

## 6.2 fake\_server

Has a fake class that simulates the interface of pp.Server but is only single-threaded

Classes:

**Server** A fake pp.Server class

```
class simulations.utils.fake_server.DestroyedServerError
    Bases: object

class simulations.utils.fake_server.Server(ncpus='autodetect', ppservers=(), secret=None,
                                            restart=False, proto=2)
    Bases: object

A fake pp.Server implementation – just single-ordered.

default_port = 60000
default_secret = 'epo20pdosl;dksldkmm'

destroy()
    Sets _destroyed flag

get_active_nodes()
    Returns {'fake': 1}

get_ncpus()
    Returns 1

get_stats()
    Returns an empty dictionary

print_stats()
    Does nothing

set_ncpus(ncpus='autodetect')
    Does nothing

submit(func, args, depfuncs=(), modules=(), callback=None, callbackargs=(), group='default',
       globs=None)
    Runs a task, calling any callback provided and returning a function that returns the results. (Emulates
    pp.Server)

NOTE: the depfuncs, modules, globals, and group parameters are not used.

wait(group=None)
    Does nothing
```

## 6.3 functions

Provides utility functions for the framework

Functions:

**random\_string()** generates a random string of characters

```
simulations.utils.functions.random_string(size=6, chars='ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ0123456789')
    Generates a random string of characters
```

Parameters:

**size** the length of the string (default 6)

**chars** the list of characters to use in the generation

## 6.4 optionparser

An extension of optparse.OptionParser that has custom error and exit handling

Classes:

**OptionParser** the extension class of optparse.OptionParser

**class** simulations.utils.optionparser.**OptionParser** (\*args, \*\*kwdargs)

Bases: optparse.OptionParser

**Overrides the error() and exit() methods to allow prevention of auto-exit**

New Methods:

**set\_error\_handler()** sets an error handler instead of the default

**set\_exit\_handler()** sets an exit handler instead of the default

**error(msg)**

Declares a user-defined error has occurred.

Parameters:

**msg** The error message string

**exit(code=0, msg=None)**

**Exits the parser/program (the default calls sys.exit). Often called** by OptionParser.error().

Parameters:

**code** The exit code

**msg** The error message

**set\_error\_handler(handler)**

Sets an error handling function

Parameters:

**handler** A function that takes an error message and does something with it.

**set\_exit\_handler(handler)**

Sets an exit handling function

Parameters:

**handler** A function that takes an exit code and error message and does something with it.

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## Examples

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### 7.1 One Population Prisoner's Dilemma Example

The following code is an example of a simulation that runs a Prisoner's Dilemma game under one-population discrete-time replicator dynamics.

If you have downloaded the source code, the script is examples/one\_population\_pd.py

```
1  """ An example simulation for a Prisoner's Dilemma using one-population discrete time replicator dynamics
2
3  """
4
5  from simulations.simulation_runner import SimulationRunner
6  from simulations.dynamics.onepop_discrete_replicator import OnePopDiscreteReplicatorDynamics
7  from simulations.base import listener
8  from simulations.base import once
9
10
11 def firstgen(this, gennum, thisgen, lastgen):
12     """ Prints 'Working...' after the first generation step is complete
13
14     """
15
16     print >> this.out, 'Working...'
17
18
19 def initialset(this, firstpop):
20     """ Prints out a notice for the first population being chosen
21
22     """
23
24     print >> this.out, 'Initial population selected.'
25
26
27 def stablestate(this, genct, thisgen, lastgen, firstgen):
28     """ Prints a notice when a stable state is reached
29
30     """
31
32     print >> this.out, 'Stable state reached!'
33
34
35 def forcestop(this, genct, thisgen, lastgen, firstgen):
```

```
36     """ Prints a notice when the simulation is force-stopped
37
38     """
39
40     print >> this.out, 'Force stopped!'
41
42
43 def generation(this, genct, thisgen, lastgen):
44     """ Prints a notice that a generation is done.
45
46     """
47
48     print >> this.out, 'Generation {0} complete.'.format(genct)
49
50
51 def simdone(this, result):
52     """ Prints a notice that one of the sims has finished.
53
54     """
55
56     print "Simulation {0} complete.".format(this.finished_count)
57
58
59 def alldone(this):
60     """ Prints a notice when all simulations are done.
61
62     """
63
64     print "All done."
65
66
67 @listener('generation', generation)
68 @listener('force stop', forcestop)
69 @listener('stable state', stablestate)
70 @listener('initial set', initialset)
71 @once('generation', firstgen)
72 class PrisonersDilemmaSim(OnePopDiscreteReplicatorDynamics):
73
74     _payoffs = [[3, 0], [4, 1]]
75
76     def __init__(self, *args, **kwdargs):
77         super(PrisonersDilemmaSim, self).__init__(*args, **kwdargs)
78
79         self.types = ['C', 'D']
80
81     def _interaction(self, me, profile):
82
83         if me == 0 or me == 1:
84             return self._payoffs[profile[me]][profile[1 - me]]
85         else:
86             raise ValueError("Profile index out of bounds")
87
88
89 @listener('result', simdone)
90 @listener('done', alldone)
91 class PDSimRunner(SimulationRunner):
92     pass
```

```

94
95 if __name__ == '__main__':
96     runner = PDSimRunner(PrisonersDilemmaSim)
97     runner.go()

```

## 7.2 Two Population Hawk-Dove Example

The following code is an example of a simulation that runs a Hawk-Dove game under two-population discrete-time replicator dynamics.

If you have downloaded the source code, the script is examples/two\_population\_hd.py

```

1 """ An example simulation for a Hawk-Dove game using two-population discrete time replicator dynamics
2
3 """
4
5 from simulations.simulation_runner import SimulationRunner
6 from simulations.dynamics.npop_discrete_replicator import NPopDiscreteReplicatorDynamics
7 from simulations.base import listener
8 from simulations.base import once
9
10
11 def firstgen(this, gennum, thisgen, lastgen):
12     """ Prints 'Working...' after the first generation step is complete
13
14 """
15
16     print >> this.out, 'Working...'
17
18
19 def initialset(this, firstpop):
20     """ Prints out a notice for the first population being chosen
21
22 """
23
24     print >> this.out, 'Initial population selected.'
25
26
27 def stablestate(this, genct, thisgen, lastgen, firstgen):
28     """ Prints a notice when a stable state is reached
29
30 """
31
32     print >> this.out, 'Stable state reached!'
33
34
35 def forcestop(this, genct, thisgen, lastgen, firstgen):
36     """ Prints a notice when the simulation is force-stopped
37
38 """
39
40     print >> this.out, 'Force stopped!'
41
42
43 def generation(this, genct, thisgen, lastgen):
44     """ Prints a notice that a generation is done.

```

```
45
46      """
47
48     print >> this.out, 'Generation {0} complete.'.format(genct)
49
50
51 def simdone(this, result):
52     """ Prints a notice that one of the sims has finished.
53
54     """
55
56     print "Simulation {0} complete.".format(this.finished_count)
57
58
59 def alldone(this):
60     """ Prints a notice when all simulations are done.
61
62     """
63
64     print "All done."
65
66
67 @listener('generation', generation)
68 @listener('force stop', forcestop)
69 @listener('stable state', stablestate)
70 @listener('initial set', initialset)
71 @once('generation', firstgen)
72 class HawkDoveSim(NPopDiscreteReplicatorDynamics):
73
74     _payoffs = [[0, 4], [1, 2]]
75
76     def __init__(self, *args, **kwdargs):
77         super(HawkDoveSim, self).__init__(*args, **kwdargs)
78
79     def _default_types(self):
80         return [['H', 'D'], ['H', 'D']]
81
82     def _interaction(self, me, profile):
83
84         if me == 0 or me == 1:
85             return self._payoffs[profile[me]][profile[1 - me]]
86         else:
87             raise ValueError("Profile index out of bounds")
88
89
90 @listener('result', simdone)
91 @listener('done', alldone)
92 class HDSimRunner(SimulationRunner):
93     pass
94
95 if __name__ == '__main__':
96     runner = HDSimRunner(HawkDoveSim)
97     runner.go()
```

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