

# Spglib for Python

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## Installation

Source codes, examples, and the test are downloaded SourceForge ([https://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group\\_id=215020](https://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=215020)) or GitHub (<https://github.com/atztogo/spglib/releases>).

## Using package distribution service

The easiest way to install python-spglib is to use the pypi package, for which numpy is required to be installed before the installation. A command to install spglib is:

```
% pip install spglib
```

Previous versions < 1.8.x are installed by:

```
% pip install pyspglib
```

Conda is another choice:

```
% conda install -c https://conda.anaconda.org/jochym spglib
```

These packages are made by Paweł T. Jochym.

## Building using setup.py (distutils)

To manually install python-spglib using `setup.py`, python header files (python-dev), gcc, and numpy are required before the build. The installation steps are shown as follows:

1. Go to the `python` directory
2. Type the command:

```
% python setup.py install --home=<my-directory>
```

The `<my-directory>` is possibly current directory, `.` or maybe:

```
% python setup.py install --user
```

to use the user scheme (see the python document.)

3. Put `./lib/python` path into `$PYTHONPATH`, e.g., in your `.washrag`.

## Test

The test script `test_spglib.py` is found in `python/test` directory. Got to this directory and run this script. It will be like below:

```
% python test_spglib.py
test_get_symmetry_dataset (__main__.TestSpglib) ... ok
```

Ran 1 test in 2.132s

OK

## How to import spglib module

### Change in version 1.9.0!

For versions 1.9.x or later:

```
import spglib
```

For versions 1.8.x or before:

```
from pyspglib import spglib
```

If the version is not sure:

```
try:
    import spglib as spg
except ImportError:
    from pyspglib import spglib as spg
```

## Version number

In version 1.8.3 or later, the version number is obtained by `spglib.__version__` or `get_version`.

## Example

Examples are found in examples (<https://github.com/atztogo/spglib/tree/master/python/examples>) directory.

## Variables

### Crystal structure ( **cell** )

A crystal structure is given by a **tuple**. This tuple format is supported at version 1.9.1 or later. Optionally, an **ASE Atoms-like object** is also supported. An alternative Atoms class (`atoms.py` (<https://github.com/atztogo/spglib/blob/master/python/examples/atoms.py>)) that contains minimum set of methods is prepared in the examples (<https://github.com/atztogo/spglib/tree/master/python/examples>) directory. When using ASE Atoms-like object, `get_symmetry` with collinear polarizations is not supported.

The tuple format is shown as follows. There are three or four elements in the tuple: `cell = (lattice, positions, numbers)` or `cell = (lattice, positions, numbers, magmoms)` where `magmoms` represents collinear polarizations on atoms and is optional.

Lattice parameters `lattice` are given by a 3x3 matrix with floating point values, where **a**, **b**, **c** are given as rows, which results in the transpose of the definition for C-API ([lattice.html#variables-lattice](#)). Fractional atomic positions `positions` are given by a Nx3 matrix with floating point values, where N is the number of atoms. Numbers to distinguish atomic species `numbers` are given by a list of N integers. The collinear polarizations `magmoms` only work with `get_symmetry` and are given as a list of N floating point values.

```
lattice = [[a_x, a_y, a_z],
           [b_x, b_y, b_z],
           [c_x, c_y, c_z]]
positions = [[a_1, b_1, c_1],
            [a_2, b_2, c_2],
            [a_3, b_3, c_3],
            ...]
numbers = [n_1, n_2, n_3, ...]
magmoms = [m_1, m_2, m_3, ...] # Only works with get_symmetry
```

**Version 1.9.5 or later:** When a crystal structure is not properly given, the methods that use the crystal structure will return `None`.

### Symmetry tolerance ( **symprec** )

Distance tolerance in Cartesian coordinates to find crystal symmetry.

## Methods

### get\_version

**New in version 1.8.3**

```
version = get_version()
```

This returns version number of spglib by tuple with three numbers.

## get\_spacegroup

```
spacegroup = get_spacegroup(cell, symprec=1e-5)
```

International space group short symbol and number are obtained as a string. With `symbol_type=1`, Schoenflies symbol is given instead of international symbol.

## get\_symmetry

```
symmetry = get_symmetry(cell, symprec=1e-5)
```

Symmetry operations are obtained as a dictionary. The key `rotation` contains a numpy array of integer, which is “number of symmetry operations” x “3x3 matrices”. The key `translation` contains a numpy array of float, which is “number of symmetry operations” x “vectors”. The orders of the rotation matrices and the translation vectors correspond with each other, e.g., the second symmetry operation is organized by the set of the second rotation matrix and second translation vector in the respective arrays. Therefore a set of symmetry operations may be obtained by:

```
[(r, t) for r, t in zip(dataset['rotations'], dataset['translations'])]
```

The operations are given with respect to the fractional coordinates (not for Cartesian coordinates). The rotation matrix and translation vector are used as follows:

```
new_vector[3x1] = rotation[3x3] * vector[3x1] + translation[3x1]
```

The three values in the vector are given for the a, b, and c axes, respectively. The key `equivalent_atoms` gives a mapping table of atoms to symmetrically independent atoms used to find symmetrically equivalent atoms. The numbers contained are the indices of atoms starting from 0, i.e., the first atom is numbered as 0, and then 1, 2, 3, ... `np.unique(equivalent_atoms)` gives representative symmetrically independent atoms. A list of atoms that are symmetrically equivalent to some independent atom (here for example 1 is in `equivalent_atom`) is found by `np.where(equivalent_atom==1)[0]`.

If `cell` is given as a tuple and collinear polarizations are given as the fourth element of this tuple, symmetry operations are searched considering this freedom. In ASE Atoms object, this is not supported.

## refine\_cell

**Behaviour changed in version 1.8.x**

```
lattice, scaled_positions, numbers = refine_cell(cell, symprec=1e-5)
```

Bravais lattice (3x3 numpy array), atomic scaled positions (a numpy array of [number\_of\_atoms,3]), and atomic numbers (a 1D numpy array) that are symmetrized following space group type are returned. When the search failed, `None` is returned.

The detailed control of standardization of unit cell may be done using `standardize_cell`.

## find\_primitive

**Behaviour changed in version 1.8.x**

```
lattice, scaled_positions, numbers = find_primitive(cell, symprec=1e-5)
```

When a primitive cell is found, lattice parameters (3x3 numpy array), scaled positions (a numpy array of [number\_of\_atoms,3]), and atomic numbers (a 1D numpy array) is returned. When the search failed, `None` is returned.

The detailed control of standardization of unit cell can be done using `standardize_cell`.

## standardize\_cell

**New in version 1.8.x**

```
lattice, scaled_positions, numbers = standardize_cell(bulk, to_primitive=False, no_idealize=False, symprec=1e-5)
```

`to_primitive=True` is used to create the standardized primitive cell, and `no_idealize=True` disables to idealize lengths and angles of basis vectors and positions of atoms according to crystal symmetry. Now `refine_cell` and `find_primitive` are shorthands of this method with combinations of these options. When the search failed, `None` is returned. More detailed explanation is shown in the spglib (C-API) document.

## get\_symmetry\_dataset

**At version 1.9.4, the member ‘choice’ is added.**

```
dataset = get_symmetry_dataset(cell, symprec=1e-5)
```

`dataset` is a dictionary. The keys are:

- `number`: International space group number
- `international`: International short symbol

- `hall` : Hall symbol
- `choice` : Centring, origin, basis vector setting
- `transformation_matrix` : Transformation matrix from lattice of input cell to Bravais lattice  $L^{bravais} = L^{original} * T$
- `origin_shift` : Origin shift choice in the setting of Bravais lattice
- `wyckoffs` : Wyckoff letters
- `equivalent_atoms` : Mapping table to equivalent atoms
- `rotations` and `translations` : Rotation matrices and translation vectors. See `get_symmetry` for more details
- `pointgroup_symbol` : Symbol of the crystallographic point group in the Hermann–Mauguin notation.
- `std_lattice`, `std_positions`, `std_types` : Standardized crystal structure corresponding to a Hall symbol found. These are equivalently given in the array formats `lattice`, `positions`, and `numbers` presented at Crystal structure (cell), respectively.

When the search failed, `None` is returned.

## get\_symmetry\_from\_database

```
symmetry = get_symmetry_from_database(hall_number)
```

A set of crystallographic symmetry operations corresponding to `hall_number` is returned by a dictionary where rotation parts and translation parts are accessed by the keys `rotations` and `translations`, respectively. The definition of `hall_number` is found at Space group type (api.html#api-spg-get-dataset-spacegroup-type).

When something wrong happened, `None` is returned.

## get\_spacegroup\_type

**New at version 1.9.4**

```
spacegroup_type = get_spacegroup_type(hall_number)
```

This function allows to directly access to the space-group-type database in spglib (spg\_database.c). A dictionary is returned. To specify the space group type with a specific choice `hall_number` is used. The definition of `hall_number` is found at Space group type (api.html#api-spg-get-dataset-spacegroup-type). The keys of the returned dictionary is as follows:

```
number
international_short
international_full
international
schoenflies
hall_symbol
choice
pointgroup_schoenflies
pointgroup_international
arithmetic_crystal_class_number
arithmetic_crystal_class_symbol
```

Here `spacegroup_type['international_short']` is equivalent to `dataset['international']` of `get_symmetry_dataset`, `spacegroup_type['hall_symbol']` is equivalent to `dataset['hall']` of `get_symmetry_dataset`, and `spacegroup_type['pointgroup_international']` is equivalent to `dataset['pointgroup_symbol']` of `get_symmetry_dataset`.

When something wrong happened, `None` is returned.

## niggli\_reduce

**New at version 1.9.4**

```
niggli_lattice = niggli_reduce(lattice, eps=1e-5)
```

Niggli reduction is achieved using this method. The algorithm detail is found at <https://atztego.github.io/niggli/> (<https://atztego.github.io/niggli/>) and the references are there in. vectors are stored in `lattice` and `niggli_lattice` as shown in Crystal structure (cell). `eps` is the tolerance parameter, but unlike `symprec` the unit is not a length. This is to check if difference of norms of two basis vectors is close to zero or not and if two basis vectors are orthogonal by the value of dot product being close to zero or not. The detail shown at <https://atztego.github.io/niggli/> (<https://atztego.github.io/niggli/>).

When the search failed, `None` is returned.

## delaulnay\_reduce

**New at version 1.9.4**

```
delaulnay_lattice = delaunay_reduce(lattice, eps=1e-5)
```

Delaunay reduction is achieved using this method. The algorithm is found in the international tables for crystallography volume A. Basis vectors are stored in `lattice` and `niggli_lattice` as shown in Crystal structure (cell). `eps` is the tolerance parameter, but unlike `symprec` the unit is not a length. This is used as the criterion if volume is close to zero or not and if two basis vectors are orthogonal by the value of dot product being close to zero or not.

When the search failed, `None` is returned.

## get\_ir\_reciprocal\_mesh

```
mapping, grid = get_ir_reciprocal_mesh(mesh, cell, is_shift=[0, 0, 0])
```

---

Irreducible k-points are obtained from a sampling mesh of k-points. `mesh` is given by three integers by array and specifies mesh numbers along reciprocal primitive axis. `is_shift` is given by the three integers by array. When `is_shift` is set for each reciprocal primitive axis, the mesh is shifted along the axis in half of adjacent mesh points irrespective of the mesh numbers. When the value is not 0, `is_shift` is set.

`mapping` and `grid` are returned. `grid` gives the mesh points in fractional coordinates in reciprocal space. `mapping` gives mapping to the irreducible k-point indices that are obtained by

```
np.unique(mapping)
```

---

Here `np` is the imported numpy module. The grid point is accessed by `grid[index]`.

When the search failed, `None` is returned.

For example, the irreducible k-points in fractional coordinates are obtained by

```
ir_grid = []
mapping, grid = get_ir_reciprocal_mesh([ 8, 8, 8 ], cell, [1, 1, 1])
for i in np.unique(mapping):
    ir_grid.append(grid[i])
```

---

Source ([\\_sources/python-spglib.txt](#))

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