

The IUPAC InChI project

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The main web sites for the IUPAC InChI project are:

<http://www.iupac.org/inchi>

and

<http://www.inchi-trust.org>

The slides from this presentation can be found at:

<http://www.hellers.com/steve/pub-talks/>

Pacificchem 12/15/2010



InChI TRUST

Outline

1. Background/History/Objective/Why InChI?
2. InChI Technical Details and Examples
3. InChI Trust
4. Current and Future InChI activities
5. Acknowledgements

Objective

The objective of the IUPAC Chemical Identifier Project is to create a unique label, the IUPAC Chemical Identifier (InChI), which will be an Open Source, freely available, non-proprietary identifier for well defined chemical substances that can be used in printed and electronic data sources thus enabling easier LINKING of and working with diverse data and information compilations.

Why InChI? - Too Many Identifiers

Structure diagrams

- various conventions
- contain 'too much' information

Connection Tables

- MolFiles, Smiles, ROSDAL, ...

Pronounceable names

- IUPAC, CAS, trivial

Index Numbers

- EINECS, FEMA, DOT, RTECS, CAS, Beilstein, USP, RTECS, EEC, RCRA, NCI, UN, USAF

Why Use InChI

For publishers and database providers using InChI gives one a competitive advantage being able to LINK content from multiple sources. It offers users the ability to help in new discoveries from existing information and data by easily being able to integrate, remix, and retell. InChI is a small, but vital, part of new business models and technologies involving chemicals that will lead to new discoveries. Combinability increases the value of information and data.

InChI & Open Access

InChI is the way publishers are improving their product delivery and meeting their US Government mandated Open Access requirements by conveying supplemental information to users.

Critical factors for the success of InChI project

1. Technically competent staff
2. Fulfill a real community need
3. Political and Financial Support

The Internet has made the world more homogenous for chemical information and the Open Source InChI/InChIKey is not affected by global boundaries or proprietary chemical structure representations.

Technical: InChI is a unique representation/identifier for defined chemical structures. Probably marginally better than previous ones. The InChI algorithm was built on the shoulders of giants.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graph_theory

Practical: InChI and the related hash-code compressed InChIKey are the only available universal LINKs for in-house and public databases of defined chemical structures. Adoption and use by the vast majority of publishers and database providers assure it will be widely used.

Why InChI is becoming a success

1. Organizations need a structure representation for their content (databases, journals, chemicals for sale, products, and so on) so that their content can be **LINKED** to and combined with other content on the Internet.
2. InChI is a public domain algorithm that anyone, anywhere can freely use.

**How do we know the InChI
project is beneficial?**

**Success is uncoerced
adoption**

InChI have some advantages over other chemical identifiers developed before:

- (1) They are freely useable and non-proprietary.
- (2) They allow a more advanced representation of chemical information than other codes (such as the SMILES code).
- (3) They are unambiguous, i.e. conversion of chemical structures using standardized algorithms only leads to one InChI.
- (4) They are precisely indexed by major search engines such as Google.

However, InChI are not applicable to generic formats often disclosed in patent literature, such as Markush structures, since they were rather designed to represent specific chemical structures and compounds. InChI therefore are not yet useful for comprehensive retrieval of patent literature.

Excerpt taken from:

Full-text prior art and chemical structure searching in e-journals and on the internet – A patent information professional's perspective

World Patent Information, Volume 31, Issue 4, December 2009, Pages 278-284

Maik Annies (Syngenta)

The best way to represent a chemical compound is not by a name or even a database identifier, but by its structure encoded in Structure Data Format (SDF MDL V2000) or the open Chemical Markup Language (CML) format or InChI codes. A few databases already provide the IUPAC/NIST standard of InChI codes or the shorter hashed InChIKey. The new InChIKey resolver services implemented by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and ChempSpider allows to create InChIKeys from molecular structures and a reverse lookup of InChIKeys to obtain the associated known structures from molecular databases. The InChIKey can be used for web based literature search and also for chemical database search and merging of compound lists from multiple sources. Some other databases support the SMILES code for structures. The use of SMILES code is not recommended because multiple vendors create different representations of the SMILES code. Also true canonical (unique) SMILES are vendor specific.

Extracted from:

Kind T, Scholz M, Fiehn O:

How large is the metabolome? A critical analysis of data exchange practices in chemistry.

PLoS One 2009, 4:e5440.

Scientific Articles Mentioning InChI

["The Chemical Translation Service \(CTS\) - a web-based tool to improve standardization of metabolomic reports"](#)

Gert Wohlgemuth, Pradeep Kumar Haldiya, Egon Willighagen, Tobias Kind, and Oliver Fiehn

Bioinformatics, published 9 September 2010 (Open Access)

["PathwayAccess: CellDesigner plugins for pathway databases"](#)

John L. Van Hemert and Julie A. Dickerson

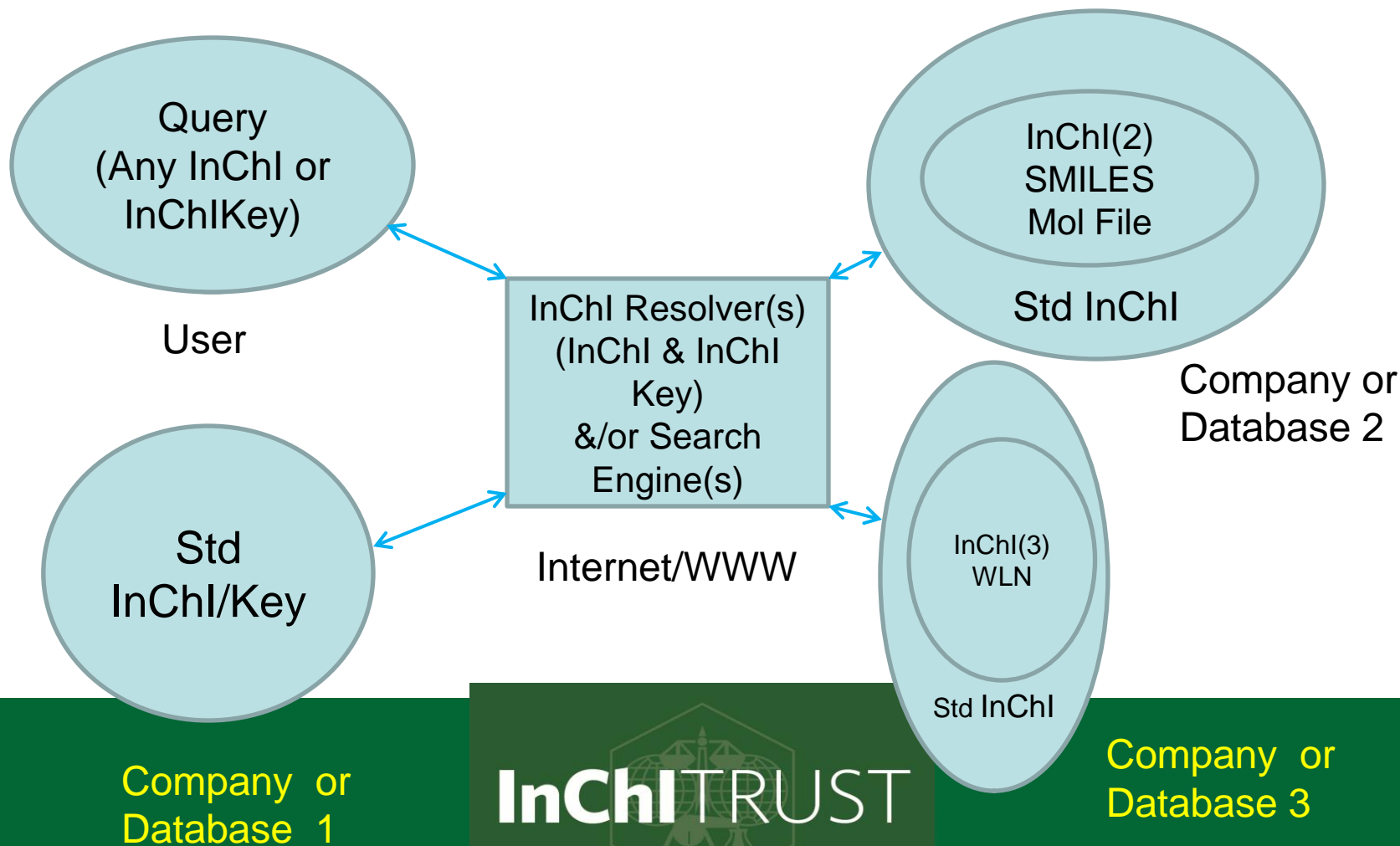
Bioinformatics **2010**, 26(18), 2345-2346 (Open Access)

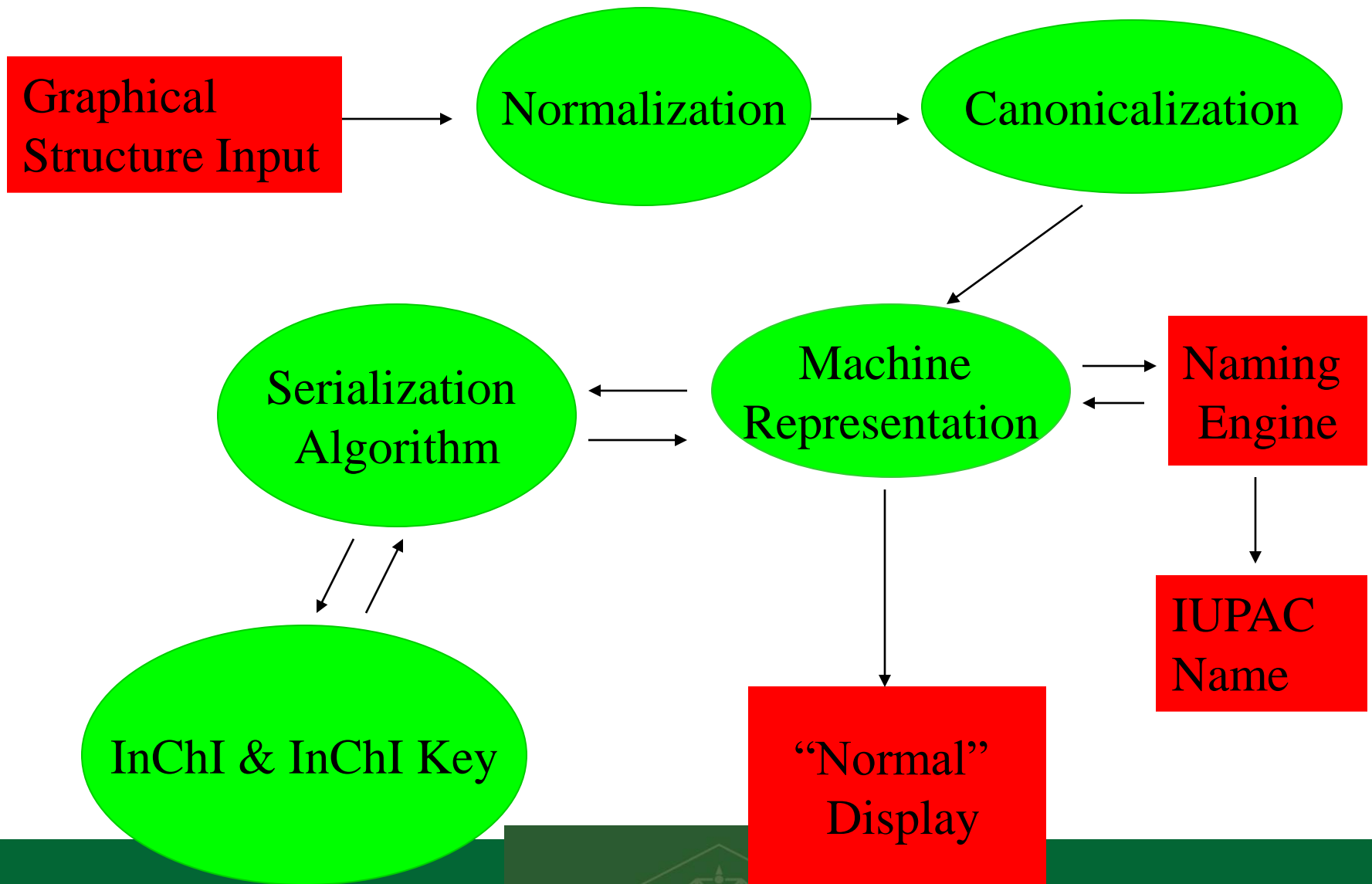
["Utopia documents: linking scholarly literature with research data"](#)

T. K. Attwood, D. B. Kell, P. McDermott, J. Marsh, S. R. Pettifer, and D. Thorne

Bioinformatics **2010**, 26(18), 568-574 (Open Access)

The LINKED and Interoperable and Combinable World of InChI





InChI layered structure design

The current InChI layers are:

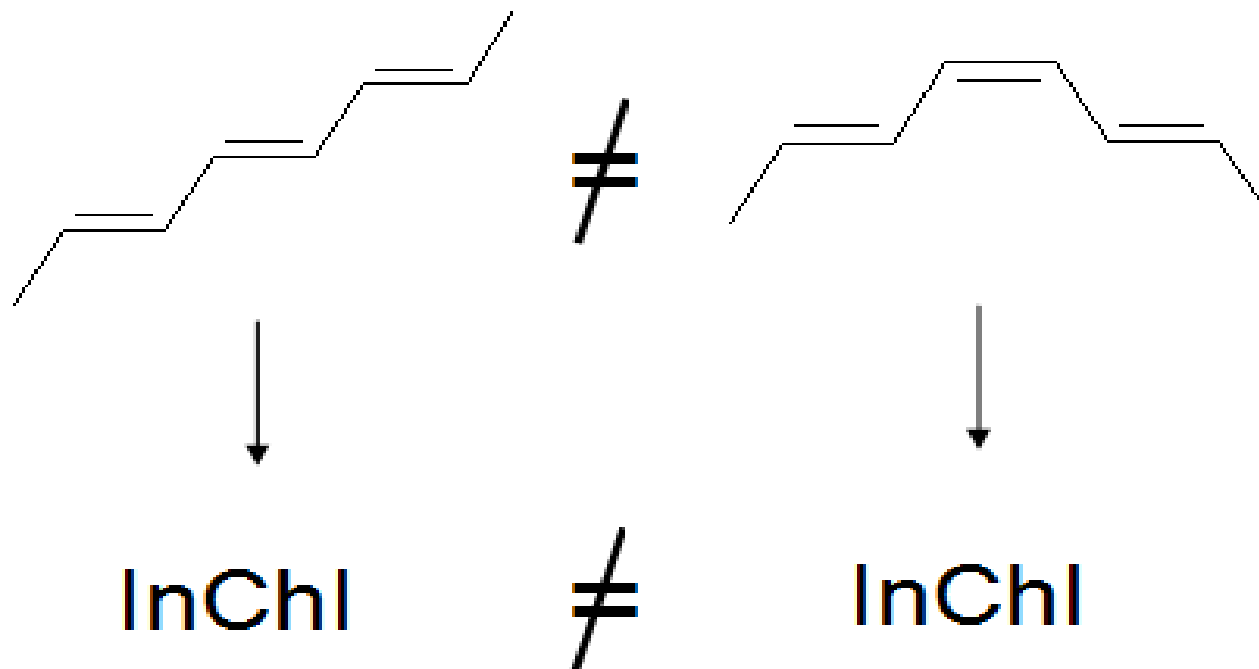
1. Formula
2. Connectivity (no formal bond orders)
 - a. disconnected metals
 - b. connected metals
3. Isotopes
4. Stereochemistry
 - a. double bond (Z/E)
 - b. tetrahedral (sp³)
5. Tautomers (on or off)

Charges are added to end of the string

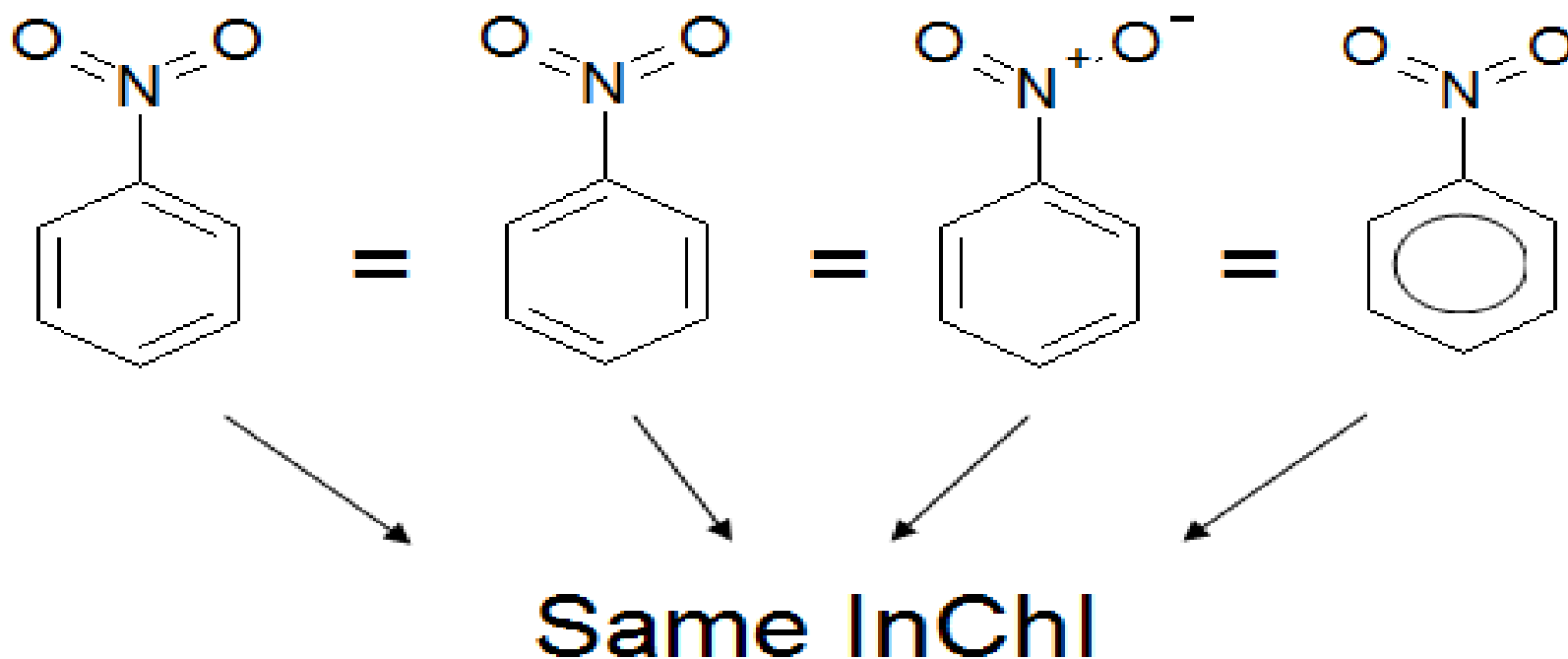
InChI Characteristics

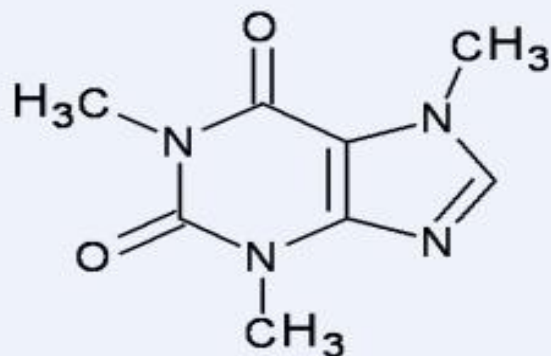
1. **Easy to generate (It will use existing software.)**
2. **Expressive (It will contain structural information.)**
3. **Unique/Unambiguous**
4. **Easy to search for structure via Internet search engines (Google, Yahoo, Microsoft Live, etc.) using the InChI (hash) Key.**

Different geometric or stereo isomers have different identifiers
–All distinguishing structural information is included



One compound has only ONE InChI





InChI=1S/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H.1-3H3 (caffeine)

InChIKey=RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYSA-N

character indicating the number of protons
(‘N’ means neutral)

flag character for InChI version:
‘A’ for version 1

flag character (‘S’) indicates
standard InChIKey (produced out
of standard InChI)

First block (14 letters)

Encodes molecular skeleton
(connectivity)

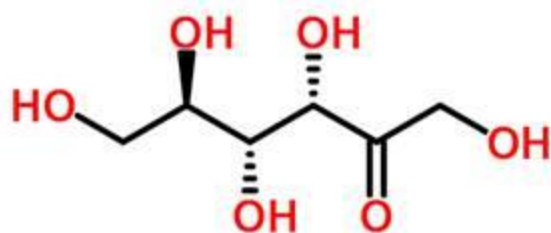
Second block (8 letters)

Encodes stereochemistry and isotopes

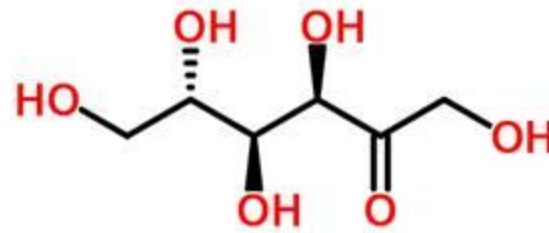
**Bar Codes – not designed to be read
by humans**

**InChI – not designed to be read by
humans. It is designed to be read by
search engines and computer
programs**

How does the InChI work?



D-Fructose



L-Fructose

D-Fructose (Natural)

InChI=1S/C6H12O6/c7-1-3(9)5(11)6(12)4(10)2-8/h3,5-9,11-12H,1-2H2/t3-,5-,6-
/m1/s1

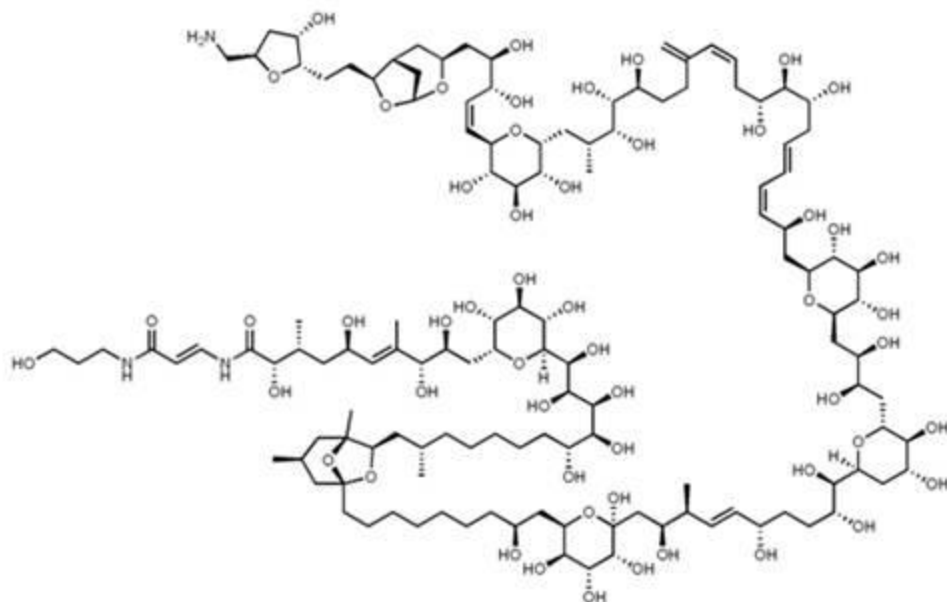
InChIKey: BJHIKXHVCXFQLS-UYFOZJQFSA-N

L-Fructose

InChI=1S/C6H12O6/c7-1-3(9)5(11)6(12)4(10)2-8/h3,5-9,11-12H,1-2H2/t3-,5-,6-
/m0/s1

InChIKey: BJHIKXHVCXFQLS-FUTKDDECSA-N

How does the InChI work?



Palytoxin

- Isolated from Hawaiian soft coral
- One of the most toxic non-peptide substances
- Contains more than 70 stereochemical elements

InChI=1S/C129H223N3O54/c1-62(29-33-81(143)108(158)103(153)68(7)47-93-111(161)117(167)110(160)91(180-93)36-35-76(138)62(144)51-73-50-74-53-92(178-73)90(177-74)38-37-89-85(147)52-75(61-130)179-89)23-20-28-78(140)105(155)77(139)26-18-13-16-25-70(135)48-94-112(162)118(168)113(163)97(181-94)55-84(146)83(145)54-95-107(157)87(149)57-96(182-95)106(156)80(142)34-32-69(134)31-30-65(4)88(150)60-129(176)125(174)123(173)115(165)99(184-129)49-71(136)24-15-10-9-11-19-40-128-59-64(3)58-127(8,186-128)100(185-128)44-63(2)22-14-12-17-27-79(141)109(159)116(166)120(170)122(172)124-121(171)119(169)114(164)98(183-124)56-86(148)102(152)66(5)45-72(137)46-67(6)104(154)126(175)132-42-39-101(151)131-41-21-43-133m13,16,18,20,23,25,30-31,35-36,39,42,45,63-65,67-100,102-125,133-150,152-174,176H,1,9-12,14-15,17,19,21-22,24,26-29,32-34,37-38,40-41,43-44,46-61,130H2,2-8H3,(H,131,151)(H,132,175)/b18-13+,23-20-,25-16-,31-30+,36-35-,42-39+,66-45+/t63-,64-,65-,67+,68+,69+,70+,71-,72-,73-,74+,75-,76+,77+,78+,79+,80+,81-,82+,83+,84+,85+,86-,87+,88-,89+,90+,91+,92-,93+,94-,95+,96-,97+,98+,99+,100+,102+,103+,104-,105-,106+,107-,108+,109-,110+,111-,112-,113+,114-,115-,116-,117-,118+,119+,120+,121-,122-,123+,124-,125+,127+,128-,129-/m0/s1

InChIKey: CWODDUGJZSCNGB-HQNRRTSA-N





About 5,780 results (0.36 seconds)

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[InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#) ☆

InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3 ... reveals an inhibitor of Mre11-Rad50-Nbs1 complex , Nature Chemical Biology, 2008 ...

www.chemspider.com/InChIKey=RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYAW - Cached - Similar

[Caffeine - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#) ☆

1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3. InChI key, RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYAW. Properties. Molecular formula, C8H10N4O2 ...

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caffeine - Cached - Similar

[Compound 7 : Moonlighting proteins Hal3 and Vhs3 form a ...](#) ☆

Nov 1, 2009 ... InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3.

InChIKey: RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYAW ...

www.nature.com › [Journal home](#) › [Archive](#) › [Article](#) › [Full text](#)

[caffeine \(CHEBI:27732\)](#) ☆

Oct 17, 2009 ... InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3.

InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3 ...

www.ebi.ac.uk/chebi/searchId.do?chebiId=CHEBI:27732 - Cached

[InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#) ☆

InChI=1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3. ... reveals an inhibitor of Mre11-Rad50-Nbs1 complex , Nature Chemical Biology, 2008 ...

mesh.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.2424.html - Cached

[Caffeine Mass Spectrum](#) ☆

CH\$NAME: Caffeine CH\$FORMULA: C8H10N4O2 CH\$EXACT_MASS: 194.08038

CH\$SMILES: ... CH\$IUPAC: 1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3

...

www.massbank.jp/jsp/Dispatcher.jsp?type=disp&id...1 - Cached - Similar

[caffeine 58-08-2](#) ☆

Aug 3, 2010 ... IUPAC Name -, 1,3,7-trimethylpurine-2,6-dione. InChI -, InChI=1/C8H10N4O2

/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3 ...

www.thegoodscentscompany.com/data/rw1014161.html - Cached - Similar



Web

1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3



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... [1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#) ... 1D Proton Resonances From Web Site: \$> cat ...
[www.sciencesoft.net/caffeine/index.html](#) - Cached page

[ChemSpider News » ChemSpider Integrations](#)

The InChI^A and^A InChIKey for caffeine are shown below: InChI=[1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#) InChIKey=RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYAW
[www.chemspider.com/news/category/integration](#) - Cached page

[InChI=\[1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\\(10\\)7\\(13\\)12\\(3\\)8\\(14\\)11\\(6\\)2/h4H,1-3H3\]\(#\)](#)

Log Octanol-Water Partition Coef (SRC): Log Kow (KOWWIN v1.67 estimate) = 0.16 Log Kow (Exper. database match) = -0.07 Exper.
[www.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.2424.html](#) - Cached page

[caffeine 58-08-2](#)

1,3,7-trimethylpurine-2,6-dione: InChI - InChI=[1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#): InChIKey - RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYAW
[www.thegoodscentscompany.com/data/rw1014161.html](#) - Cached page

[Chemistry and Biology support, KDE/Strigi GSoC project: August 2007](#)

InChI=[1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#) The solution was to add a special flag to chemistry.inchi ontology field property that would indicate that a ...
[neksa.blogspot.com/2007_08_01_archive.html](#) - Cached page

[International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry](#)

InChI=[1/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4H,1-3H3](#)
 InChIKey=RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYAW First block (**14** letters), encodes molecular skeleton (connectivity ...
[www.iupac.org/inchi/release102.html](#) - Cached page

[Caffeine Mass Spectrum](#)

... name: caffeine ch\$formula: c8h10n4o2 ch\$exact_mass: 194.08038 ch\$smiles: [cn\(c2\)c\(c\(=o\)1\)c\(n2\)n\(c\)c\(=o\)n\(c\)1](#) ch\$iupac: [1/c8h10n4o2/c1-10-4-9-6-5\(10\)7\(13\)12\(3\)8\(14\)11\(6\)2/h4h,1-3h3](#) ...
[www.massbank.jp/jsp/Dispatcher.jsp?type=disp&id=PR010011&site=1](#) - Cached page

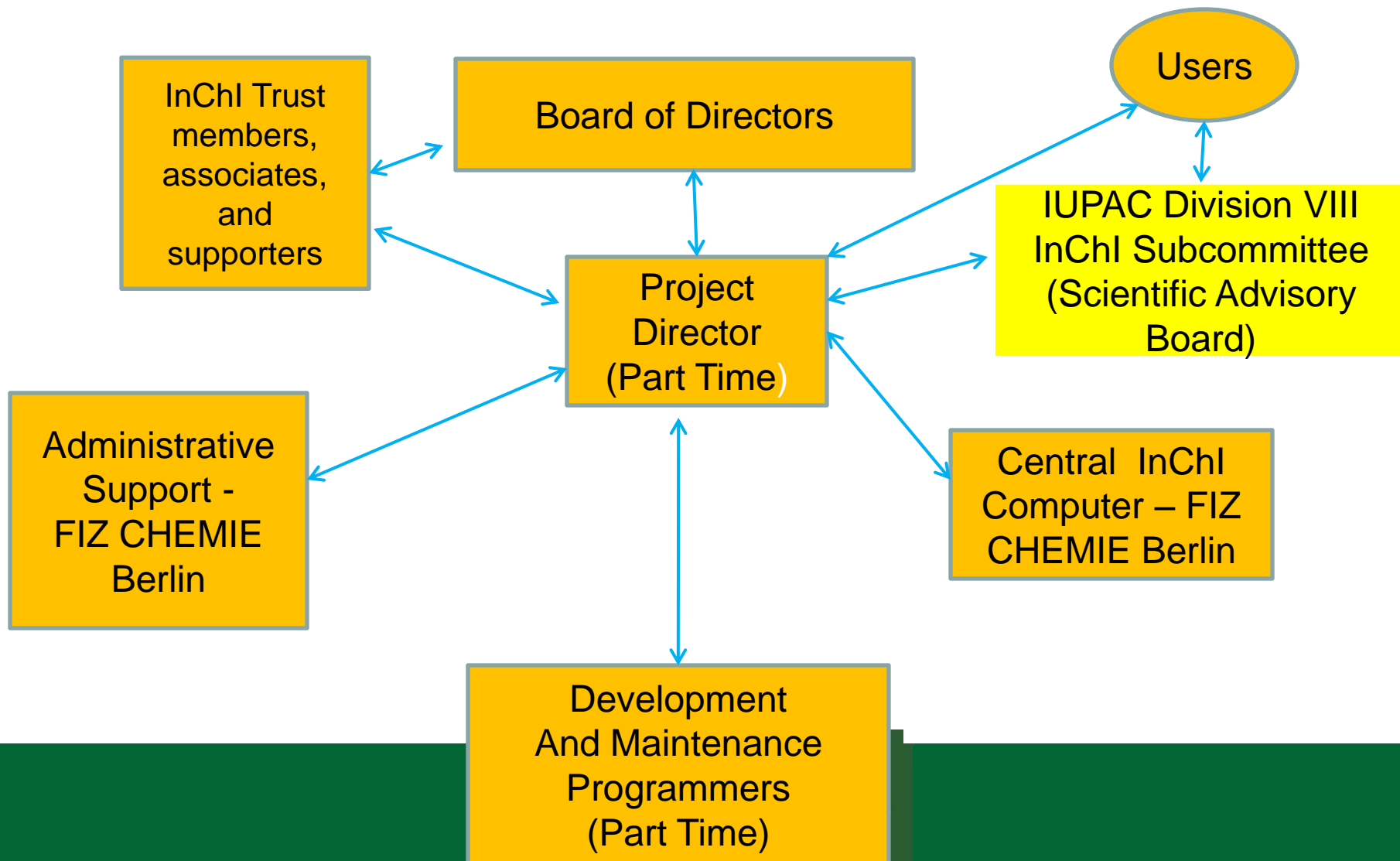
InChI TRUST



The InChI Trust

With the needs of NIST fulfilled with respect to what capabilities of an InChI are required for NIST databases, and since IUPAC is fundamentally and culturally a volunteer organization, there needs to be a way to continue development of InChI, and maintain the InChI algorithm. As a result of it was concluded that a not-for-profit organization would best fit the project needs. Thus the decision to create and incorporate the "InChI Trust" . As there is no "free lunch", the Trust will need resources to continue to operate. Membership in the InChI Trust requires annual dues. The income from these revenues will be used exclusively for InChI development, maintenance, and educational activities associated with the project. Membership will entitle a member to influence the direction, priority, and speed of further Trust activities. Those organizations which do not join the InChI Trust will still have free access to the InChI algorithms but will not participate in any decision-making or direction -setting activities.

InChI Trust Organization



Current InChI Trust Members

Accelrys

ACD Labs

ChemAxon

Dialog

Elsevier

FIZ CHEMIE – Berlin

IBM

Informa/Taylor & Francis

IUPAC

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16 as of 12/1/2010

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University of North Carolina, NC, USA
University of Paderborn, Germany
University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica
Xemistry GmbH, Germany

23 as of 12/6/2010

Current IUPAC Working Groups

Markush

Polymers/Mixtures

Organometallics

InChI Resolver

Electronic States

RInChI –InChI for Reactions

Possible Future Enhancements

1. **Transrutherfordium elements**
2. **Electronic States, including Transition states and Excited states.**
3. **Work with IUCr and CCDC for 3D information**
4. **Proteins, Peptides & Biopolymers**
5. **Mac supported version**
6. **Java version**
7. **VS2010 .NET compilation support**

The Future

InChI has become mainstream for publishers, databases providers, and software developers. Over the next 5-10 years, publishers will use data mining to create both better abstracts, useful indexing, and concept terms. Search engines will be able to search for appropriate text and structures and direct users to the original (fee or free/Open Access/Open Data) sources.

Acknowledgements

(Primarily members for the IUPAC InChI subcommittee and associated InChI working groups)

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