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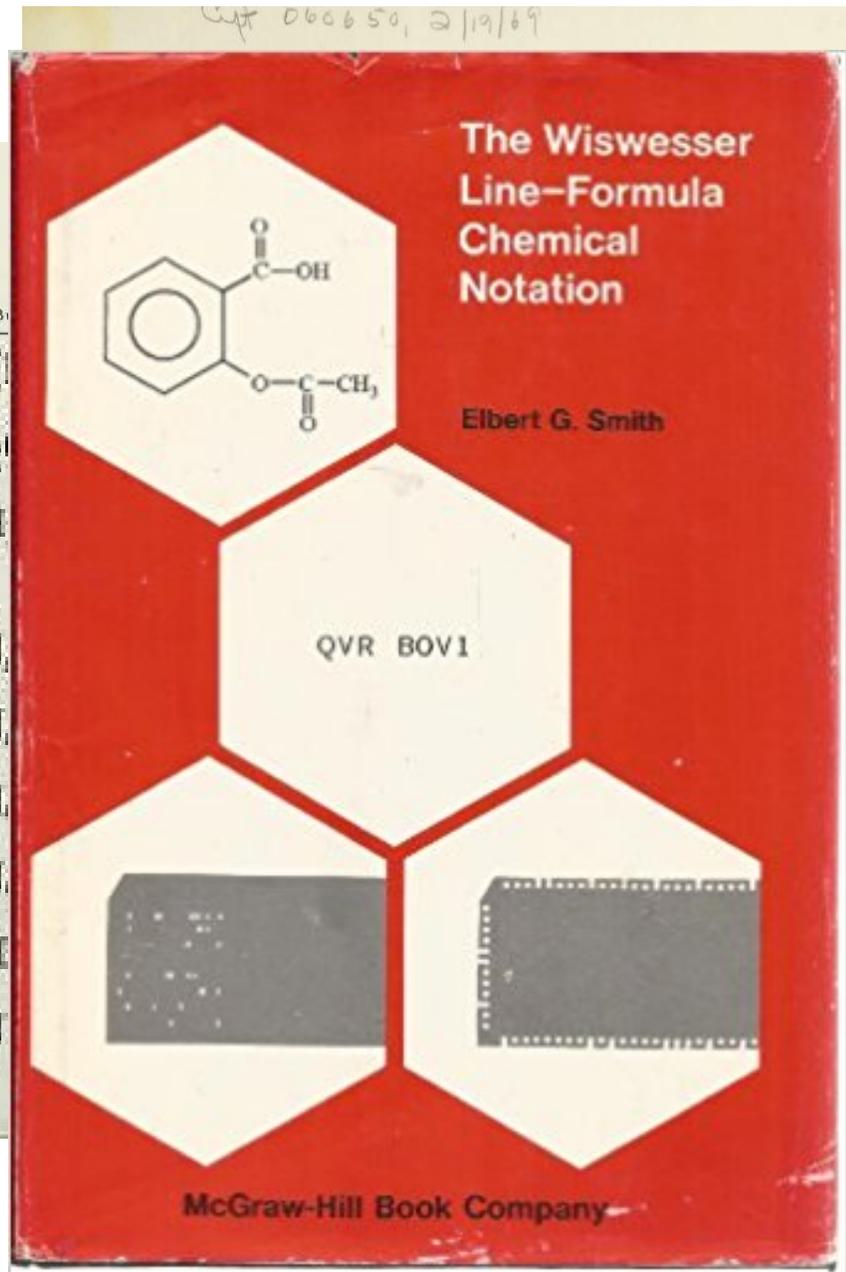
# The Origin of the 'n' In InChI

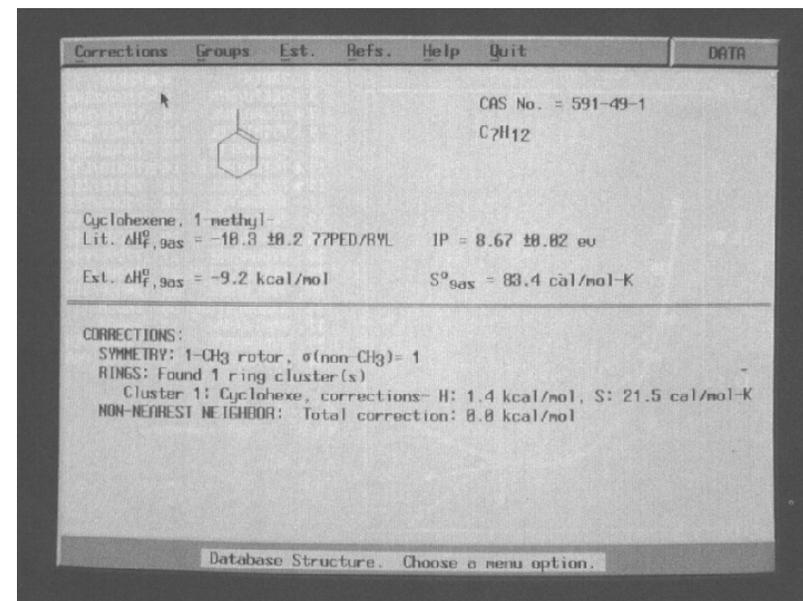
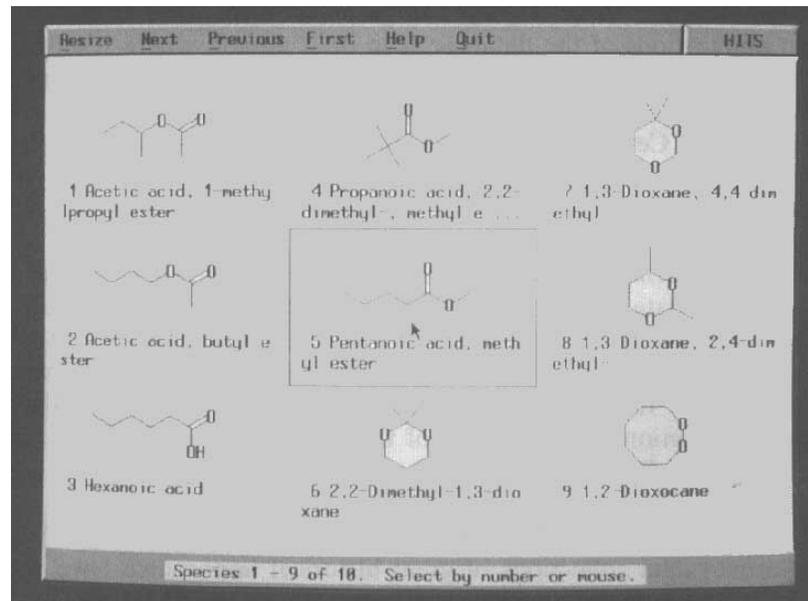
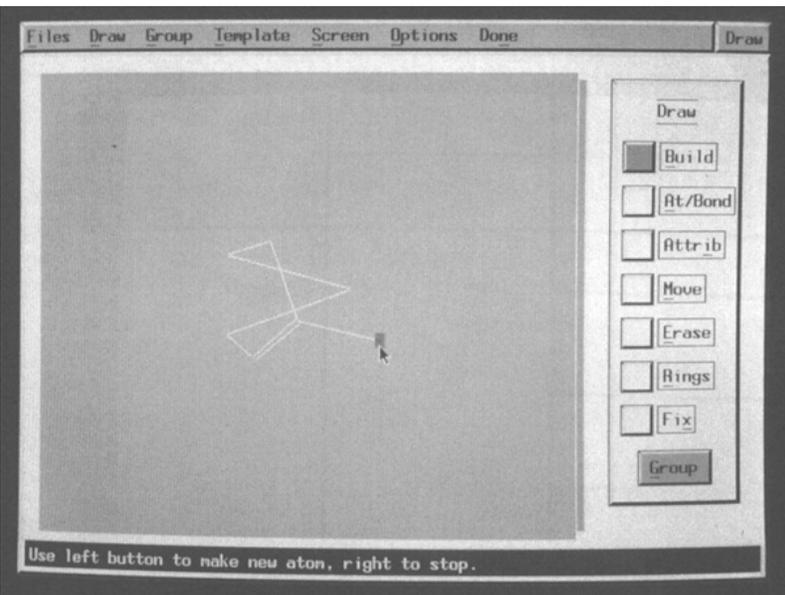
**NIST**  
**National Institute of  
Standards and Technology**  
U.S. Department of Commerce





Frederick D. Rossini  
NBS 1928-1950





**NIST** National Institute of Standards and Technology  
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**NIST Chemistry WebBook, SRD 69**

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## The NIST Structures and Properties Group Additivity Model

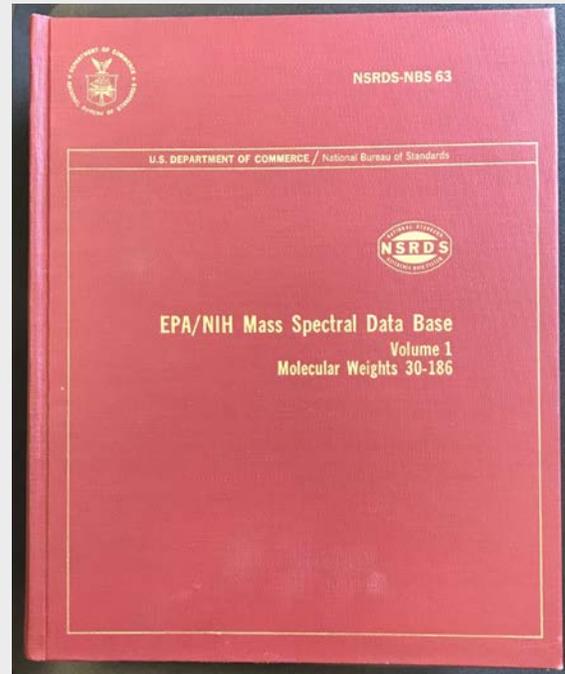
The Structures and Properties software fully implements Benson's Group Additivity method[1,2,3] for estimating gas phase enthalpies of formation, entropies and heat capacities. The implementation includes a variety of corrections, including ring strain, symmetry and non-nearest neighbor effects such as cis, gauche and ortho interactions. Benson's group values are used except when more recent data call for significant changes or where it was necessary to compensate for differences in computed symmetry numbers (discussed below). Some entropy and heat capacity group values missing from Benson's tables are taken from the DIPPR Data Evaluation Handbook[4].

Based primarily on more recently reported data, about 30 new groups have been assigned enthalpy of formation values and nearly 40 new ring corrections were added[5]. The principal source of experimental data for the new groups and ring corrections was "Thermochemical Data of Organic Compounds"[6]. The treatment of symmetry and equivalent isomers is generally the same as Benson's, but differs in some respects, as discussed later in this section.

For flexible ring systems and trivalent nitrogen compounds the program occasionally gives values different from those recommended by Benson. This is done intentionally to predict more reliably entropies of ring systems for which no data exists, although agreement for a limited number of known compounds (some substituted cyclohexanes) may be slightly degraded. The rationale for our choice of symmetry numbers is given below.

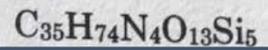
Benson's "whole molecule" corrections to the entropy for symmetry ( $\sigma$ ) and for numbers of equivalent optical isomers ( $n$ ) require an understanding of the molecular conformation, which often is not available. Therefore, such corrections can be difficult to apply, especially for

# EPA/NIH Mass Spectral Data Base Transferred to NBS in 1986



898

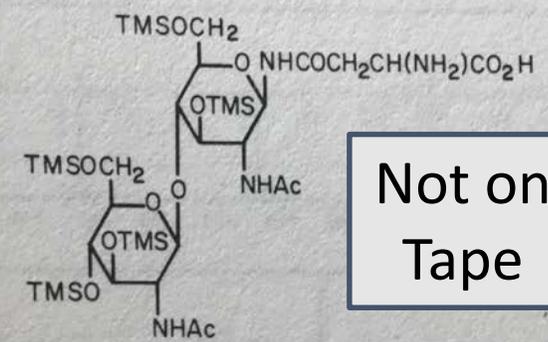
L-Asparagine  
deoxy-3,4,6-  
deoxy-3,6-



56051-47-9

On Tape, Often Useless

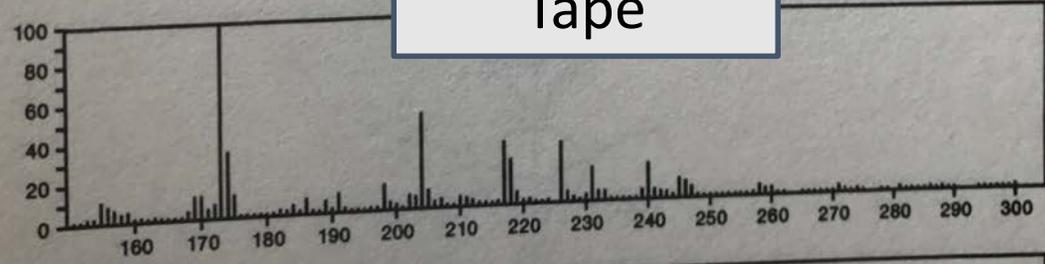
CAS rn/Formula  
on Tape

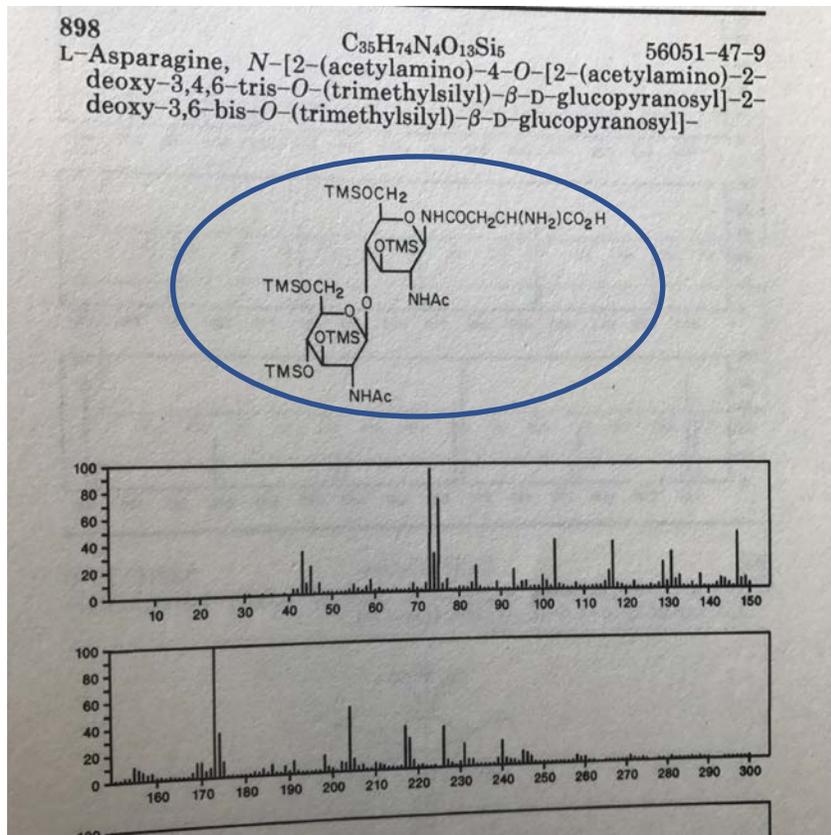


Not on  
Tape



Spectrum on  
Tape





Help !!!



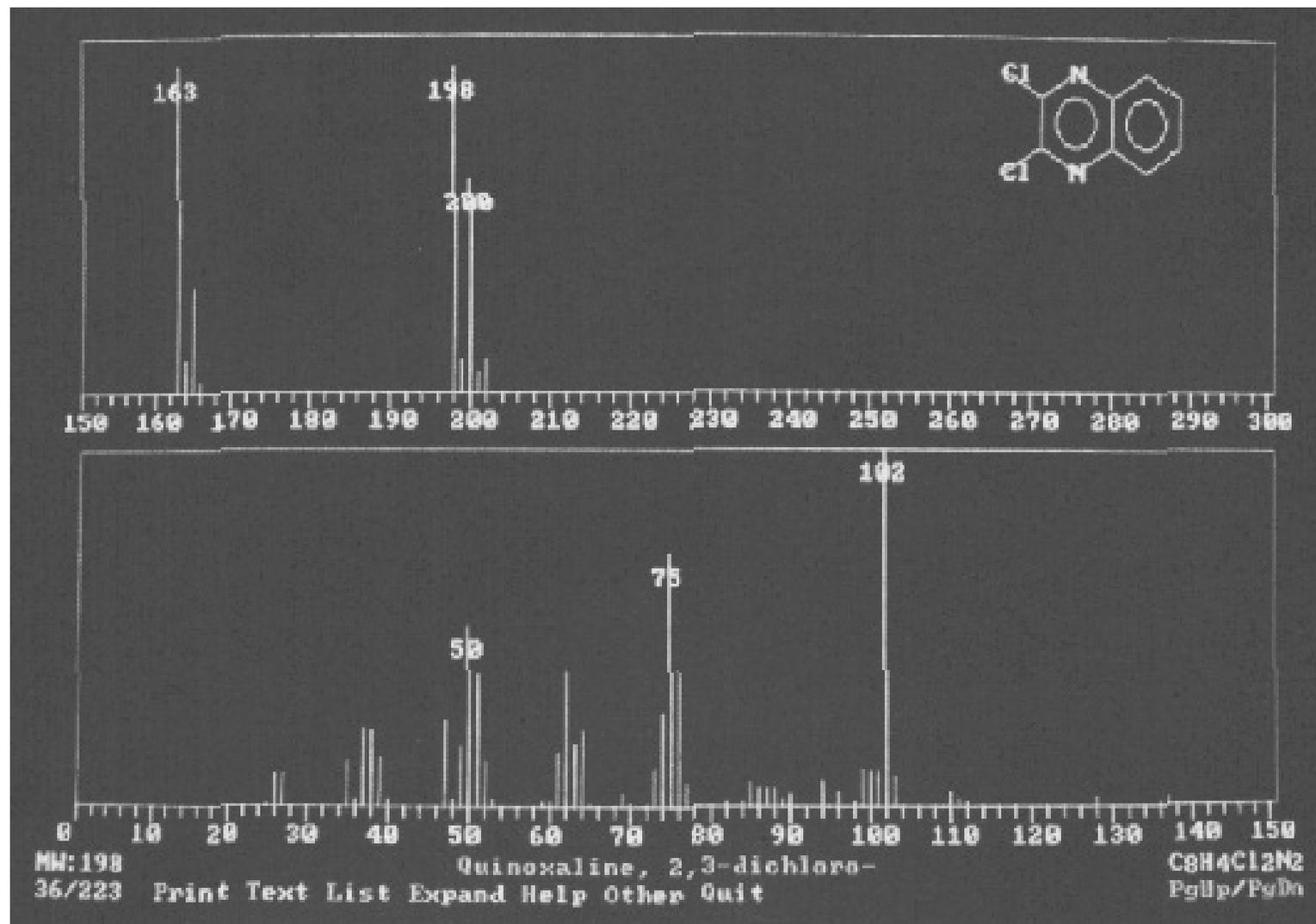
Connection Tables  
 from On-Line Database

Software CT to 2D  
 Craig Shelly, Kodak

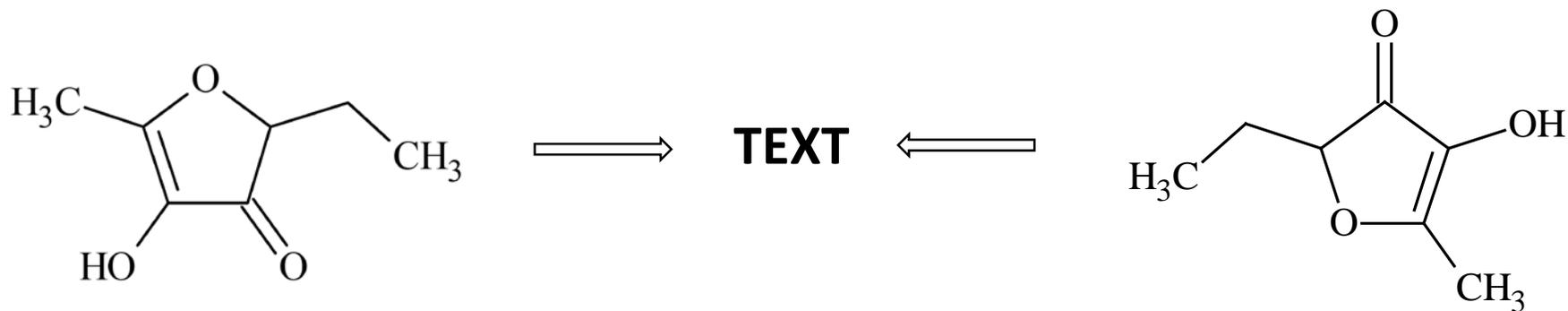
# NIST/EPA/NIH Mass Spectral Database 1988



36 - 360K Floppies



## Need to Find Replicate Compounds



Developed path searching algorithm

# Chemists synthesize a single naming system

David Adam, London

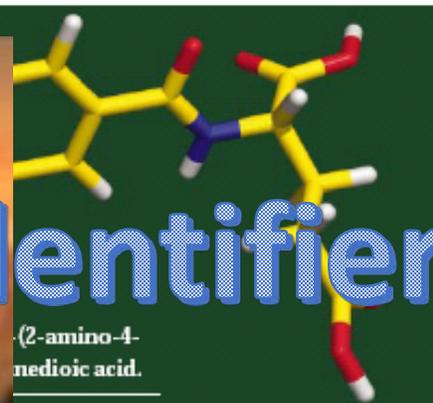
An international team of chemists is working on something that chemists have long lacked — a consistent and comprehensive way of labelling all chemical compounds.

The new technique will apply computer algorithms to molecular structures, generating a unique string of characters for any compound. The new system will not replace common chemical names, but will allow easier linking to compounds in chemical databases and journals.

"The hope is that all organizations can handle information on chemicals with the same to use a single format to say what they mean," says Alan McNaught, general manager of the production division at the Royal Society of Chemistry in Cambridge, who coordinated the project for the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

Right now there is no single international standard for identifying chemicals. The IUPAC and the American Chemical Society use different rules. Some drug companies, as well as different branches of chemistry, have their own chemical-naming systems. Even simple structures can cause confusion. For example, the formal name for acetic acid, the main ingredient in vinegar, is ethanoic acid.

IUPAC believes that its new system — which would be freely available to all — could unify the different approaches. Tentatively



TIM WANSPI

## IUPAC Chemical Identifier

# IchI

# IchI Ocha

the molecules was released this year to let other chemists test the idea. It labels each atom in a compound in a way that does not depend on how the structure is drawn, and converts the label to a string of characters. The format has not been finalized, but at present ethane is "C3C1 2-1" for ethanol, and acetone is "C3C1 2-1 2-3" the first two characters are the number of atoms in the chain, and the process is reversible, so molecular structures can be generated from the identifiers.

The next step is to extend the system to include more complex organic compounds,

as polymers, and ultimately to tackle inorganic compounds. By adding it to software packages commonly used to draw chemical structures, the NIST team hopes IChI will enter into widespread use.

In effect, the IChI number will provide each chemical molecule with a digital object identifier (DOI) — a concept increasingly being applied to everything from scientific papers to individual genes. Jonathan Goodman, a chemist at the University of Cambridge, says chemistry suits this approach well. "Molecules are a wonderful unit of information to treat in this way," he says. "They are complex enough to have lots of interesting features and difficulties but simple enough to represent quite a small subset." ■

♦ [www.iupac.org/projects/2000/2000-025-1-800.html](http://www.iupac.org/projects/2000/2000-025-1-800.html)



# Lucifer's Lawyer



For Breakfast

## Milk Toast

at least once a week in place of a cereal. It is wholesome, nourishing and delicious.

Slices toasted bread	1 tablespoon flour
1 quart boiling milk	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup cold milk
1 tablespoon butter	1 teaspoon salt

Add butter to boiling milk; mix flour with cold milk and stir into hot milk with salt. Pour over toast and serve hot. Some like milk toast sprinkled with sugar, others prefer salt and pepper; or a little grated nutmeg may be sprinkled over the top.

# IUPAC InChI

# IUPAC International Chemical Identifier

# InChIKey Plays a Central Role in our MS Library Program

- Compare Spectra Across Libraries
  - Essential evaluation tool
  - First, non-stereo block used
  - Recent paper in JASMS
- Spectrum Dissemination
  - Spectra from NIST Webbook
  - Work in progress: Metabolomics
- As a Compound Accession Number
  - Underway

# InChIKey as an MS Accession Number

- Useful, but insufficient
  - Must deal with uncertain structural features
- Multiple isomers
  - Meso – DL (multiple stereocenters)
  - Distinguish by retention time
- Derivatization
  - GC/MS often requires chemical adduction at uncertain positions

# Uncertain Pairs of Isomers

- Meso/DL
  - Naturally occur together
- Double Bond (sp<sup>2</sup>) Z/E isomerism
  - Mostly older data
- Spectra usually very similar
- InChIKey (no stereo) + Elution Order
  - Use uncertain bond type

# Derivatives for GC/MS

- Trimethylsilyl (TMS) most common
- Replace H at OH, NH<sub>2</sub>, NH, SH on precursor
  - Position not always predictable
  - Enol possibility for keto-enol tautomers
  - Steric effects
- Analyst concerned only with precursor
  
- Will use 2 representations
  - InChIKey for 'Probable' Structure
  - InChIKey (precursor) + Order # + Text Descriptor (e.g., TMS)