

MOLECULAR MODELING AND CREATING 3D MODELS OF CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS IN BLENDER SOFTWARE USING THE RESOURCES OF CHEMSPIDER AND OPEN BABEL

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Abstract: Creating 3D models of molecules and chemical compounds is a necessity in scientific work, which examines different states, structures, processes and interaction of molecules. This is done through the use of comprehensive 3D graphics programs as well as specialized applications containing and maintaining a database of ready-made models. The ability to work with good 3D graphics platform such as Blender combined with available resources of ChemSpider and Open Babel, builds a powerful system allowing the creation of high-quality and realistic virtual models of molecules and chemical compounds.

Keywords: Chemical, molecules, compounds, ChemSpider, Open Babel, Blender

1. Problem discussion

The use of modern technological tools for designing molecules and compounds is an advantage that ensures reliability and speed in the workflow. Very good compatibility to the final modeling in Blender's software [1 - 10] have the utilities ChemSpider [11 - 13] providing molecular resources and Open Babel, as a tool for converting the required file formats [14 - 16]. This study aims to explore possibilities for providing the necessary virtual 3D molecules and chemical compounds used in modern practice and science.

2. Objective and research methodologies

For the purposes of the study a 3D virtual model of Hydroxyapatite (chemical formula $\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$) will be provided. This important model is used for creation of computer simulations and animations in Blender environment with support of ChemSpider and Open Babel.

ChemSpider is a freely available database based on chemical structures, that provides information on over 26 million de-duplicated compounds derived from over 400 sources. These sources include a wide variety of government databases, chemical supplier catalogs, academic and commercial websites. Each of the listed sources has a brief popup description, with the full record providing a web link to the source. ChemSpider augments the default information from these sources with additional of property data (official website: <http://www.chemspider.com>). Possibilities of the ChemSpider free chemical database are shown on Fig. 1.



Search ChemSpider

Matches any text strings used to describe a molecule.

Systematic Name, Synonym, Trade Name, Registry Number, SMILES, InChI or CSID

Fig. 1. ChemSpider - the free chemical database. ChemSpider search engine results: Systematic Name, Synonym, Trade Name, Registry Number, SMILES, InChI or CSID

In a real environment $\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$ occupies an important place in medicine and implantology in particular, where is applied as a coating and has bioactive function [17 - 19]. Fig. 2 shows 2D view of $\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$ and its parameters. Fig. 3 shows 3D image (JSmol) of $\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$.

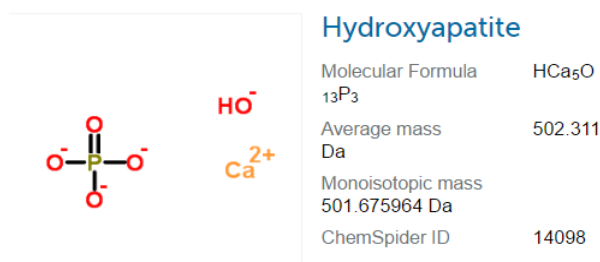


Fig. 2. 2D view of Hydroxyapatite. Molecular Formula $\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$. Average mass 502.311 Da Monoisotopic mass 501.675964 Da ChemSpider ID 14098

- JSmol
- Jmol (java)

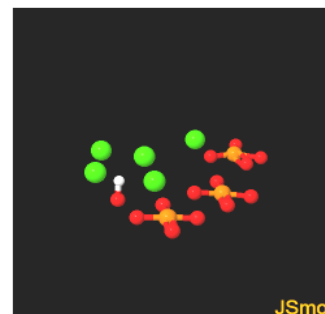


Fig. 3. 3D (JSmol) View of Hydroxyapatite ($\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$). (<http://www.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.14098.html?rid=376769cf-b675-44b6-b4ed-c475ae68ccce>).

The file from the basis of ChemSpider is downloaded in *.mol format with number 14 098 (as listed in the database). To prepare $\text{HCa}_5\text{O}_{13}\text{P}_3$ model for work first it must be synchronized with the Open Babel (fig. 4) (source Open Babel: An open chemical toolbox).

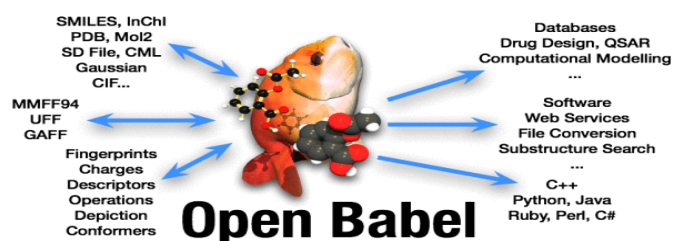


Fig. 4. Open Babel - open source chemical toolbox [14]

