

IUPAC International Chemical Identifier (InChI)
InChI version 1, software version 1.04 (September 2011)

Release Notes

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This document is a part of the release of the IUPAC International Chemical Identifier with InChIKey, version 1, software version 1.04.

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This document summarizes and briefly explains the new features of InChI software v. 1.04.

Summary

The current version of InChI Identifier is 1; the current version of InChI software is 1.04 (September 2011). Previously released software versions 1.01 (2006), 1.02-beta (2007), 1.02-standard (2009), and 1.03 (June 2010) as well as all earlier versions are now considered obsolete.

The current software is able of producing both standard and non-standard InChI/InChIKey.

The summary of the features of the distributed package is as follows:

- the software licence is changed from GNU Lesser General Public Licence, LGPL version 2.1 to the more permissive IUPAC/InChI-Trust Licence for the International Chemical Identifier (InChI) Software version 1.0;
- the software now supports the chemical elements up to 112, copernicium (the last one which is currently recognised by IUPAC; support for elements 105-112 is newly added);
- the possibility of processing multiple input files at a single run is added to the inchi-1 executable (both Windows and Linux versions); the common file name wildcards are recognized;
- the support for CML input files is no longer provided; related source codes were removed ;
- several minor bugfixes/changes were made to the source codes;
- InChI executable and InChI API library binaries are supplied in 32 and 64 bit versions for both Windows and Linux.

Licensing

Previously, InChI software has been published under the GNU Lesser General Public Licence, LGPL version 2.1. Now it is replaced with the more permissive IUPAC/InChI-Trust Licence for the International Chemical Identifier (InChI) Software version 1.0.

The text of the IUPAC/InChI-Trust Licence is given below (it is also included in the distribution package as the file LICENCE).

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New and updated features

Support for chemical elements 105-112

The previous releases of InChI software supported chemical elements up to rutherfordium (Rf, atomic number 104).

In the current release, support was added for the elements 105-112, dubnium to copernicium (element 112, copernicium, is the last which is currently recognised by IUPAC).

To incorporate the elements into InChI software, one needs to define some parameters. In particular, these are:

(a) average atomic mass M1 and atomic mass of the most abundant isotope M2 (as integer numbers), and the exact mass M3 of the most abundant isotope (this is necessary for InChI to make an "isotopic" part of the identifier);

(b) valence schema, that is, typical valence(s) exhibited by the element as ion or "neutral" atom, V.

Elements 105-112 are artificial and have no stable isotopes. The atomic mass of the longest-lived isotope was selected for M2, instead of the mass of the most abundant one, and M1 was set equal to M2. Masses of isotopes were extracted from: *M. E. Wieser and T. B. Coplen. Atomic weights of the elements 2009 (IUPAC Technical Report). Pure Appl. Chem., 2011, v. 83, No. 2, pp. 359–396.*

All the elements 105-112 were described, in internal tables, as metals. As for their valences, one should note that the chemistry of the elements of the end of the Periodic Table is far from established; often, existing knowledge is based mainly on analogies rather than on exact knowledge.

Based primarily on the discussion in *"The Chemistry of the Actinide and Transactinide Elements". Ed. by L.R. Morss, N.M. Edelstein, J.Fuger. Springer; 3rd edition, 2007*, the standard valence (for the formally neutral atom) of Db was set to 5, Sg to 6 and Bh to 7. For the other newly added elements, 108-112, the formal value of 1 was used.¹

The final parameters are listed in Table 1.

¹ In the previous versions of InChI software the value of 1 was used for the valence of supported post-Md elements, i.e. No to Rf (while actinides up to Md had the usual value of 3). In v. 1.04 these values were changed and set to: 2 for No (well-known exception in the actinide series), 3 for Lr, and 4 for Rf. Changing valences for indicated elements may change related InChI strings; however, the impact of this should be evidently quite small.

Table 1. Selected parameters of chemical elements 105-112.

Element	Name	Element number	Atomic mass M1, M2	Atomic mass M3	Standard valence V (for charge 0)
Db	Dubnium	105	268	268.1250	5
Sg	Seaborgium	106	271	271.1330	6
Bh	Bohrium	107	267	267.1277	7
Hs	Hassium	108	277	277.1500	1*
Mt	Meitnerium	109	276	276.1510	1*
Ds	Darmstadtium	110	281	281.1620	1*
Rg	Roentgenium	111	280	280.1640	1*
Cn	Copernicium	112	285	285.1740	1*

* Formal value, indicates “unknown” or “uncertain”.

AMI (Allow Multiple Inputs) mode

There were concerns regarding the performance of the inchi-1 executable when working with a large number (thousands and tens of thousands) of single-record MOL files, in comparison with a multi-record SDF file containing exactly the same molecular data.

The slow-down when working with multiple (MOL) files with respect to a large container (SDF) file is in principle natural. Running the executable multiple times assumes a multiply increased startup and file handling overhead.

It was observed that this overhead is especially significant in the case of working in MS Windows, as compared to Linux (while the difference in performance for treating an SDF file is small or absent).

To reduce the negative impact of this slowdown for those who work with a multitude of small files instead of a large container file, the possibility of processing multiple input files at a single run was added to the inchi-1 executable (both Windows and Linux versions).

This mode is activated by the inchi-1 command line option “/AMI” (Windows) or “-AMI” (Linux; AMI stands for “Allow Multiple Inputs”). In this mode, all the file names supplied in the command line are considered as the names of separate input files.

For further convenience, the common file name wildcards (“*” and “?”) are supported.

For example, issuing a command

```
inchi-1 *.mol /AMI (Windows)
```

```
inchi-1 *.mol -AMI (Linux)
```

will instruct the executable to process all the mol-files in the current directory.

Note, that omitting the switch “AMI” assumes working in a conventional single-input mode which may result in undesired treatment of wildcards².

In AMI mode, the names of output, log and problem files could not be individually specified. Instead, they are formed, for each of multiple inputs, by appending the file name with suffixes “.txt”, “.log” and “.prb”. However, to partially mimic the behavior of inchi-1 in conventional single-input mode, three additional command line options are introduced (see Table 2). They allow one to redirect the output to stdout, log to stderr, as well as to suppress creation of problem files.

Examples (*Windows, Linux*):

```
inchi-1 nci*.mol /AMI /AMIOutStd /AMIPrbNone /AuxNone /Key
```

```
./inchi-1 /home/me/mol/nci/*.mol -AMI -AMILogStd -AMIPrbNone  
-RecMet -FixedH
```

² There is an important difference in wildcard expansion under Windows and Linux.

Under Windows, inchi-1 executable makes an expansion itself (if “AMI” switch is specified). That is, if “AMI” is omitted, no expansion occurs and “*.mol” is just considered as an invalid file name.

Under Linux, wildcards are always expanded by shell. That is, if “AMI” is omitted, “*.mol” will be expanded to the list of file names; the first four of them will be treated by inchi-1, according to single-input rules, as input, output, log and problem file names (which means that the last three files will be over-written).

Table 2. AMI mode options of inchi-1 executable.

Option	Meaning
AMI	Allow multiple input files
AMIOutStd	Write output to <code>stdout</code>
AMILogStd	Write log messages to <code>stderr</code>
AMIPrbNone	Suppress creation of problem files

As indicated by tests, processing of multiple MOL files in AMI mode may be several times faster (the exact speed-up depends on many details; anyway the processing time is still significantly longer than that for a single SDF file containing the same data).

(No) CML support

Since 2004, InChI software had support for CML (Chemical Markup Language).

Since v. 1.04 of September 2011, this support for CML (ability to read CML input files) is no longer provided. However the possibility of developing an InChI interface to a separate CML module will be explored.

Accordingly, source codes for CML support have been removed from the distribution.

Distribution package

Binaries

This package includes 'command line' InChI executable and InChI API library binaries (32 and 64 bit versions are supplied for both Windows and Linux).

Also included is winchi-1.exe, a graphical Windows application (a 32 bit version which will also run under 64 bit Windows).

File/directory INCHI-1-BIN

windows/

winchi-1.exe	InChI graphical Windows application
windows/32bit/ inchi-1.exe	InChI stand-alone command line executable, 32 bit
windows/32bit/dll/ libinchi.dll	InChI dynamic-link library, 32 bit
windows/64bit/ inchi-1.exe	InChI stand-alone command line executable, 64 bit
windows/64bit/dll/ libinchi.dll	InChI dynamic-link library, 64 bit
linux/ linux/32bit/ inchi-1.gz	InChI stand-alone command line executable, 32 bit; gzipped
linux/32bit/so/ libinchi.so.1.04.00.gz	shared library for InChI API, 32 bit; gzipped
linux/64bit/ inchi-1.gz	InChI stand-alone command line executable, 64 bit; gzipped
linux/64bit/so/ libinchi.so.1.04.00.gz	shared library for InChI API, 64 bit; gzipped

Note that InChI stand-alone executable inchi-1[.exe] does not require dll/so libraries.

File/directory INCHI-1-API/INCHI_API

gcc_so_makefile/result/ inchi_main	(Linux)	the InChI software library demo application
vc9/inchi_dll/Release/ inchi_main.exe	(Windows)	the InChI software library demo application

Examples

Example programs which use InChI API library for both Windows (dll) and Linux (so) are supplied in INCHI-1-API/INCHI_API section of this distribution package. For the details, please refer to 'readme.txt' files in respective sub-directories.

There are examples for C ('inchi_main' application, see projects for MS Visual Studio 2008 'vc9' and gcc 'gcc_so_makefile') and Python ('python_sample'). Also supplied are InChI API library source codes and related MS Visual Studio 2008/gcc projects.

Note that to use the shared library, you may wish to create 'libinchi.so.1' as a symbolic link to 'libinchi.so.1.04.00'

Other

The source codes and MS Visual Studio 2008/gcc projects for inchi-1 executable are supplied in INCHI-1-API/INCHI_API section of this distribution package. For further details, please refer to 'readme.txt' files in respective sub-directories.

The documentation (Release Notes; InChI Technical Manual; InChI User Guide; InChI API Reference) is supplied in INCHI-1-DOC section of this distribution package in PDF format.

Bugfixes/changes

There were several minor fixes/changes made after software release v. 1.03 (June 2010).

In particular:

- (1) the bug in the normalization procedure for some structures (containing a radical at an atom in an aromatic ring) which may result in different InChI strings for the same molecule, depending on the original order of the atomic numbers (reported by Dmitry Pavlov, SciTouch) was fixed;
- (2) the standard valences for No, Lr, and Rf were updated, see above;
- (3) the unnecessary dependence of the inchi-1 executable for Windows on Microsoft run-time dynamic libraries was eliminated.

The combined impact of these changes on InChIs for real-world datasets is nearly negligible.

The new software has been extensively regression-tested against standard and non-standard InChIs generated with v. 1.03 (2010) software, in both Windows and Linux environments, with the various option combinations for standard and non-standard InChI. The test sets included:

1. "InChI-101" (public). This is a test set of 2,186 structures which has been created previously and included in software v. 1.01 distribution as "InChI validation suite". The structures include some very tricky and "chemically strange" ones, to verify InChI behaviour in exotic cases.
2. "NCI" (public). 249,081 structures from "NCI Open Database Compounds", retrieved from:
<http://cactus.nci.nih.gov/ncidb2/download.html>
3. "MSL-NIST" (proprietary). 191,436 structures.
4. "MDB" (proprietary). 100,000 structures.
5. "PubChem Compound" (public). 31,467,170 structures. Retrieved from PubChem on 2011-02-19.
6. "PubChem Substance" (public). 74,387,591 structures. This dataset, in contrast with "PubChem Compound", contains non-normalized structures just as they were deposited in PubChem. Retrieved from PubChem on 2011-02-19.

No changes in InChI strings in comparison with those produced with v. 1.03 software were observed³.

³ The dataset "PubChem Substance" contains elements 105-112 which raise an error "Unknown element(s)" with software v. 1.03; with current software v. 1.04 these elements are treated successfully.