

npm i @rdkit/rdkit

Current state, and what we can do better

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Current state
- Current problems and potential solutions
- How to contribute



RDKit.js (legacy)

JavaScript wrappers around most of the RDKit. Greg reached the conclusion that it wouldn't be supportable over the long term.

NPM package, first release

Using latest docker artifacts generation features, a first version of the MinimalLib is released on npm

Where to next?

- Easier adoption (install and use)
- More off-the-shelf functionality
- Improved docs processes
- CI robust and integrated to rdkit
- Unifying efforts
- Recruiting



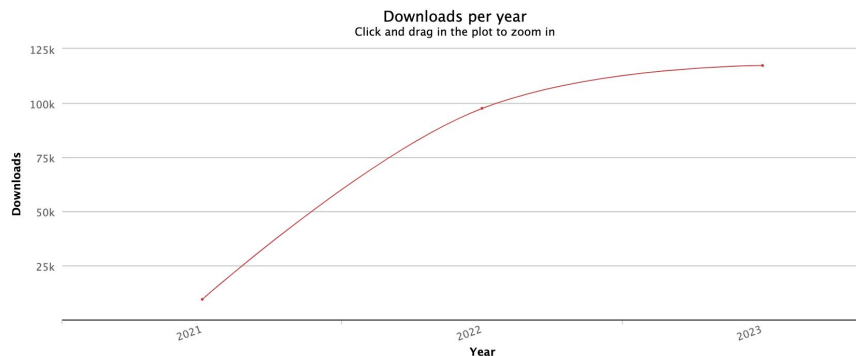
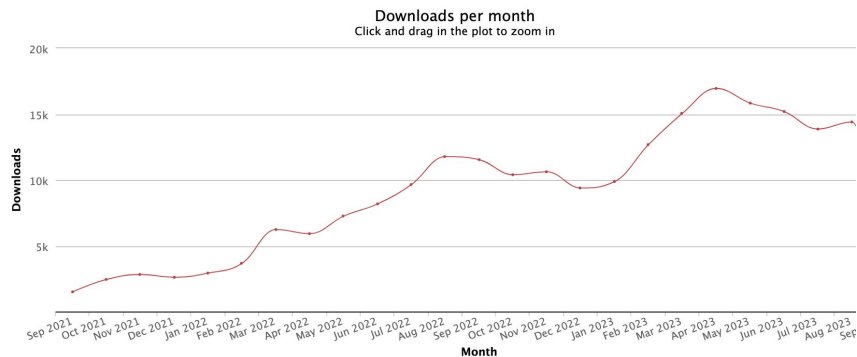
MinimalLib, first release

First version of a minimal, but useful, subset of RDKit functionality ported to JavaScript.

Dedicated project for rdkit-js

In an attempt to democratize, increase visibility, and facilitate the usage of the rdkit-js package, the rdkit-js repository has been created and is receiving open-source contributions.

Current state



- 91 stars, 27 forks, used by ~50 repos
13K downloads/month
156k downloads/year
208k total downloads
~weekly activity in repository
- Maintained, slowly evolving initiative
- Examples in several modern frameworks
- Dedicated GH project + Azure CD pipeline for automated package release

<https://www.rdkitjs.com/>

Some problems

- Ease of adoption, difficult to set up (for first time users)
- No “real-world” off-the-shelf components for common use cases
- API docs can be tricky to maintain due to the nature of the project
- Current CI/CD process is error prone
- Focus on functionalities in different frameworks > new functionalities, approaches, and use cases.



Achieving easy adoption...



heberleh on Aug 6, 2022

...

I think it is really great and helped me a lot. Thanks a lot to everyone involved.

Because it's about javascript, I would say that some features to identify elements in the page (graph?, positions, ids, hashes, etc) would be nice to have. I solved this by parsing an SVG (getting position of atoms and edges, lengths, etc) and then later generating also a Canvas element, so for each molecule it calculates 2 times the drawings.

One struggle is the 'installation', to make it work with other tools like nodejs, that is, to load it with 'import', etc.

A colleague came the other day to me to ask me how I got it working because they were not getting it. (They gave up, actually :s)

I only got it working because someone (you, I think?) helped me with a way to download it using JavaScript.

I imagine the difficulty has to do with the binary files.

But yeah, once I got how to 'hack', I was able to bring it to React, Jupyter and KNIME. But it always downloads the minimal lib when the webpage loads; no offline approach.



2 replies



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Achieving easy adoption...



bugzpodder commented on Apr 2 • edited ▾

...

just trying to integrate the react version into nextjs and wasnt fun

- adding the @rdkit/rdkit package (pretty standard)
- Add a copy pasted version of [MoleculeStructure](#). wish this can just be exported as part of the react package
- Add initRDKit function that MoleculeStructure uses into my codebase
- Copy RDKMinimal.{js|wasm} from node_module into public/
- Add a script tag to the app to load RDK_Minimal.js into the app

I think what's in the [README](#) and the [doc site](#) isn't nearly enough to encapsulate these steps. Even when the demo react example is working it took some reverse engineering to actually get to the steps above ^^



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Achieving easy adoption: Resilient initializer

Just `initRDKit()`, and get started.

If initial `initRDKitModule()` does not work,
fetch remote version from unpkg.com

Initialisation options (all optional):

- `parentObject`
- `wasmLocation`
- `disableRemoteLoading`
- `reload`

Think about WebAssembly only if you have
to.

Made possible through [locateFile](#) + [UNPKG](#).

```
1 const initRDKit = (() => {
2   let globalObject = typeof window !== 'undefined' ? window : global;
3   let rdkitLoadingPromise;
4   let fallbackRemotePath = "https://unpkg.com/@rdkit/rdkit@2023.3.3";
5   let packageVersion = "2023.3.3-1.0.0";
6
7   return ({ parentObject, wasmLocation, disableRemoteLoading, reload } = {}) => {
8     if (!rdkitLoadingPromise || reload) {
9       rdkitLoadingPromise = new Promise((resolve, reject) => {
10         const resolveRDKit = (RDKit) => {
11           // ... do some initialization
12           resolve(RDKit);
13         };
14
15         const rejectRDKit = (error) => {
16           reject(new Error('RDKit could not be loaded'));
17         };
18
19         let locateFile = wasmLocation ? () => wasmLocation : undefined;
20         let defaultLocateFile = () => `${fallbackRemotePath}@${packageVersion}/dist/RDKit_minimal.wasm`;
21
22         globalObject
23           .initRDKitModule({ locateFile })
24           .then(resolveRDKit)
25           .catch(() => {
26             if (!disableRemoteLoading) {
27               globalObject
28                 .initRDKitModule({ locateFile: defaultLocateFile })
29                 .then(resolveRDKit)
30                 .catch(rejectRDKit);
31             } else {
32               reject(rejectRDKit);
33             }
34           });
35       });
36     }
37
38     return rdkitLoadingPromise;
39   });
40 }());
```


Achieving easy adoption: Install, use.

A resilient initializer makes it possible to hide initialization entirely in common use cases (mostly rendering 2D depiction of molecules).

Initialization can happen on first usage of a render function or component.

For functions with a more synchronous nature, we'll always have to explicitly initialize first.

```
/**
 * Pure JS context with low-level RDKit API
 */
import {initRDKit} from './utils/initRDKit';

initRDKit().then((RDKit) => {
  // ...Work with low-level RDKit API...
});

/**
 * 2D depiction, Pure JS renderer
 */
import {Renderer} from "rdkit-structure-renderer";

Renderer.render("#mycontainerdiv", "CC(=O)OC1=CC=CC=C1C(=O)O", "svg", { width: 200, height: 200 })

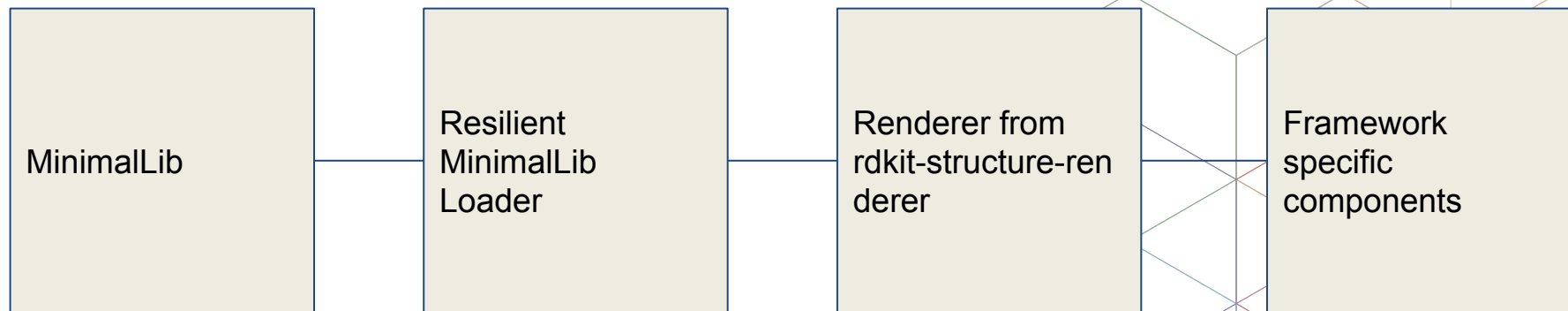
/**
 * 2D depiction, React component
 */
import {MoleculeStructure} from "@rdkit/rdkit/react";

<MoleculeStructure value="CC(=O)OC1=CC=CC=C1C(=O)O" format="svg" width={200} height={200} />
```



Achieving easy adoption: centralizing efforts

- The approach by Paolo Tosco (@ptosco) [rdkit-structure-renderer](#) is the de facto client-side way of leveraging the minimal lib to depict molecules in a performant manner.
 - Honorable mention to the @iktos/molecule-representation initiative
- Let's build a strong foundation on which potential framework specific components can be built



Achieving better documentation...



cbouy on Sep 5, 2022

...

I've mainly used it for generating depictions and doing substructure search and it's super useful!

Having examples in the documentation is great and user friendly, but ultimately I think it would be nice to have a proper documentation on the functions arguments and return types.

For example, I know that I can compute descriptors for a given molecule, but I don't know which ones are available, or if there's an option to compute only a specific subset of descriptors. It's relatively easy to dig into the source code or play around in the console to find that info but I think it would be beneficial to have these sort of things explicitly written somewhere accessible.

Thanks again to you, greg and contributors for making, maintaining and packaging this!



3 replies



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Achieving better documentation: TypeDoc

The screenshot shows the TypeDoc documentation for the `@rdkit/rdkit` library. The left sidebar lists the library's components: `JSMol`, `RDKitModule`, `SubstructLibrary`, `SubstructLibraryConstructor`, `JSONString`, `RDKitLoader`, and `RDKitLoaderOptions`. The main content area displays the `Interface JSMol`, which represents a molecule object generated by RDKit.js. It includes remarks stating that JSMol's are created using the `RDKitModule.get_mol()` methods. Below the remarks is a hierarchy showing `JSMol` as a sub-namespace. An index section is also present. The methods section lists various functions such as `add_hs`, `delete`, `draw_to_canvas`, `draw_to_canvas_with_offset`, `get_as_uint8array`, `get_descriptors`, `get_kekule_form`, `get_morgan_fp_as_binary_text`, `get_morgan_fp`, `get_pickle`, `get_smarts`, `get_substruct_match`, `get_svg_with_highlights`, `has_prop`, `remove_hs`, `straighten_depiction`, `condense_abbreviations`, `draw_to_canvas`, `generate_aligned_coords`, `get_cxsmarts`, `get_inchi`, `get_molblock`, `get_morgan_fp_as_uint8array`, `get_pattern_fp_as_binary_text`, `get_prop`, `get_smiles`, `get_substruct_matches`, `get_v3Kmolblock`, `is_valid`, `set_new_coords`, `condense_abbreviations_from_defs`, `draw_to_canvas_with_highlights`, `get_aromatic_form`, `get_cxsmiles`, `get_json`, `get_morgan_fp`, `get_new_coords`, `get_pattern_fp_as_uint8array`, `get_prop_list`, `get_stereo_tags`, `get_svg`, `has_coords`, `normalize_depiction`, and `set_prop`. The right sidebar contains settings and a list of methods on the page.

@rdkit/rdkit

Interface JSMol

Represents a molecule object generated by RDKit.js

Remarks

JSMol's are created using the `RDKitModule.get_mol()` methods.

Hierarchy

- JSMol

Defined in index.d.ts:13

INDEX

Methods

- `add_hs`
- `delete`
- `draw_to_canvas`
- `draw_to_canvas_with_offset`
- `get_as_uint8array`
- `get_descriptors`
- `get_kekule_form`
- `get_morgan_fp_as_binary_text`
- `get_morgan_fp`
- `get_pickle`
- `get_smarts`
- `get_substruct_match`
- `get_svg_with_highlights`
- `has_prop`
- `remove_hs`
- `straighten_depiction`
- `condense_abbreviations`
- `draw_to_canvas`
- `generate_aligned_coords`
- `get_cxsmarts`
- `get_inchi`
- `get_molblock`
- `get_morgan_fp_as_uint8array`
- `get_pattern_fp_as_binary_text`
- `get_prop`
- `get_smiles`
- `get_substruct_matches`
- `get_v3Kmolblock`
- `is_valid`
- `set_new_coords`
- `condense_abbreviations_from_defs`
- `draw_to_canvas_with_highlights`
- `get_aromatic_form`
- `get_cxsmiles`
- `get_json`
- `get_morgan_fp`
- `get_new_coords`
- `get_pattern_fp_as_uint8array`
- `get_prop_list`
- `get_stereo_tags`
- `get_svg`
- `has_coords`
- `normalize_depiction`
- `set_prop`

Settings

On This Page

- `add_hs`
- `condense_abbreviations`
- `condense_abbreviations_from_defs`
- `delete`
- `draw_to_canvas`
- `draw_to_canvas_with_highlights`
- `draw_to_canvas_with_offset`
- `generate_aligned_coords`
- `get_aromatic_form`
- `get_as_uint8array`
- `get_cxsmarts`
- `get_cxsmiles`
- `get_descriptors`
- `get_inchi`
- `get_json`
- `get_kekule_form`
- `get_molblock`
- `get_morgan_fp`
- `get_morgan_fp_as_binary_text`
- `get_morgan_fp_as_uint8array`
- `get_new_coords`
- `get_pattern_fp`
- `get_pattern_fp_as_binary_text`
- `get_pattern_fp_as_uint8array`
- `get_pickle`
- `get_prop`
- `get_prop_list`

Adam Baroti ([@adam-of-barrot](#)) wrote the initial typescript definition files of the library by hand.

And this allowed us to deploy a website describing the full MinimalLib API based on the TS definitions with the TypeDoc lib.

But, maintaining this by hand is error-prone. This is not 100% up to date at the moment.



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Hackathon idea: Use an LLM chain to assist API documentation (.d.ts definitions) generation

- Based on very very early experiment:
<https://chat.openai.com/share/0d1920ed-08d0-4f35-b5f4-0530bcedfff2>
- Can we achieve something that helps with LLMs by:
 - Providing the MinimalLib source code
 - Providing the main RDKit release notes
 - Creating the whole index.d.ts generation using smaller tasks
 - Asking the LLM to adapt the generation based on the existing index.d.ts
 - Making this process a pre-release step in the CI/CD pipeline of rdkit-js package release.

Other problems/solutions

- Problem: CI/CD is error-prone because it is not run as part of the main rdkit project CI.

Solution:

→ Adapt the rdkit-js CD pipeline to a CI pipeline integrated into rdkit.

- Problem: Showcasing the same functionalities many times > new functionalities.

Solution:

→ Log and address GH issues related to new functionalities, novel approaches, or use cases requested by the community (or entirely novel).

→ Centralization of efforts

→ Develop examples for existing features not showcased (reaction depiction, ...)

→ Move framework examples at a more discrete location



What can you do to help

- Become an active maintainer
- Contribute
 - Code
 - GitHub issues
 - GitHub discussion forum
- Learn more at <https://github.com/rdkit/rdkit-js/>



Come work with us

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recursion.com/careers

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Thank you.



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