



# Improving the reproducibility of cheminformatics workflows with **chembl-downloader**

Charles Tapley Hoyt

[orcid:0000-0003-4423-4370](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4423-4370)

RDKit User Group Meeting - September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Download <https://bit.ly/cth-rdkit-ugm-2023>, licensed under CC BY 4.0

# Work built on top of ChEMBL goes out of date

\*Obviously  
incomplete lists

Databases	ChEMBL		Reference
	Version	Year	
ExCAPE-DB	20	2015	Sun <i>et al.</i> , 2017
Deep Confidence	23	2017	Cortés-Ciriano & Bender, 2019
Consensus Dataset	28	2021	Sigkeit <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Papyrus	29	2021	Béquignon <i>et al.</i> , 2023

## Writing

- Blog posts and software documentation  
(e.g., [practicalcheminformatics.blogspot.com/2022/01/the-solubility-forecast-index](https://practicalcheminformatics.blogspot.com/2022/01/the-solubility-forecast-index))
- Peer-reviewed articles (e.g., Nonadditivity Analysis (Kramer, 2019) used ChEMBL 23)

# Current Pain Points

## Issues:

- Manual download and uncompression of data isn't reproducible
- Scripts for processing data often aren't version controlled nor published

## Want:

- Automated download and uncompression of data
  - Be able to specify version or just get the latest
- Mid-level utilities for accessing and querying SDF, SQL, and other ChEMBL artifacts
- (optional) High-level tools for common patterns

**Solution: chembl-downloader**

# Getting Data

```
import chembl_downloader

path = chembl_downloader.download_extract_sqlite(version='28')
```



After it's been downloaded and extracted once, it's smart and does not need to download again. It gets stored using `pystow` automatically in the `~/.data/chembl` directory.

# Querying SQL database

```
import chembl_downloader

sql = """
SELECT
    MOLECULE_DICTIONARY.chembl_id,
    MOLECULE_DICTIONARY.pref_name
FROM MOLECULE_DICTIONARY
JOIN COMPOUND_STRUCTURES ON MOLECULE_DICTIONARY.molregno == COMPOUND_STRUCTURES.molregno
WHERE molecule_dictionary.pref_name IS NOT NULL
LIMIT 5
"""

df = chembl_downloader.query(sql)
df.to_csv(..., sep='\t', index=False)
```




# High-level Integrations

```
from rdkit import Chem

import chembl_downloader

with chembl_downloader.supplier() as suppl:
    data = []
    for i, mol in enumerate(suppl):
        if mol is None or mol.GetNumAtoms() > 50:
            continue
        fp = Chem.PatternFingerprint(mol, fpSize=1024, tautomerFingerprints=True)
        smi = Chem.MolToSmiles(mol)
        data.append((smi, fp))
```



Also for RDKit substructures, pre-build Morgan FPs, chemfp, canned SQL queries, and more



# Thanks! Suggestions welcome.

This Presentation: <https://bit.ly/cth-rdkit-ugm-2023>

Code and Examples: <https://github.com/cthoit/chembl-downloader>

Issue Tracker: <https://github.com/cthoit/chembl-downloader/issues>

Documentation: <https://chembl-downloader.readthedocs.io>

Installation: `pip install chembl-downloader`

Users in the wild:

[https://github.com/search?q=chembl\\_downloader+-user%3Acthoit&type=Code](https://github.com/search?q=chembl_downloader+-user%3Acthoit&type=Code)

## Funding

Automating Scientific Knowledge Extraction and Modeling (ASKEM) Program -  
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) award HR00112220036