

# Beyond the plain text file format

How a relational database file can take us  
beyond the plain text file format

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# Topics

- Text file formats
- Atoms, bonds, coordinates, properties, ...
- Relational database tables and SQL
- SQLite is a relational database in a single file
- Chemical and biological data
- Extensibility of SQL schemas
- Using SQLite files, programming

# Molecular text file formats

Multiple formats commonly used

- Small molecules
- Proteins
- Nucleic acids
- Proprietary formats
- Chemical and biological data

Most can be interconverted – Problem solved!?

- OpenBabel supports 118 formats

METHOD		GENERATED BY OPEN BABEL 2.5.12			MOLINFO					
HETATM	1	C	LIG	1	27.705	22.040	17.024	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	2	N	LIG	1	26.440	22.098	16.432	1.00	0.00	N
HETATM	3	C	LIG	1	25.538	21.442	17.283	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	4	C	LIG	1	26.253	20.975	18.375	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	5	C	LIG	1	27.594	21.361	18.222	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	6	C	LIG	1	24.082	21.367	17.108	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	7	C	LIG	1	26.132	22.682	15.163	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	8	C	LIG	1	23.410	22.267	16.267	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	9	C	LIG	1	22.022	22.201	16.120	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	10	C	LIG	1	21.298	21.241	16.831	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	11	C	LIG	1	21.951	20.340	17.675	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	12	C	LIG	1	23.340	20.412	17.817	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	13	C	LIG	1	26.369	24.046	14.936	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	14	C	LIG	1	26.063	24.612	13.696	1.00	0.00	C
HETATM	15	C	LIG	1	25.524	23.818	12.691	1.00	0.00	C
...										

[illegible]

# SDF plain text

1-1

Cerius2 12120216093D 1 1.00000

Structure written by MMmdl.

39 41 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0999 V2000

27.7051	22.0403	17.0243	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.4399	22.0976	16.4318	N	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.5381	21.4424	17.2831	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.2525	20.9753	18.3748	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.5943	21.3608	18.2218	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.0821	21.3670	17.1082	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.1324	22.6824	15.1634	C	0	0	0	0	0	0

...

1	2	1	0	0	0
1	5	2	0	0	0
1	19	1	0	0	0
2	3	1	0	0	0
2	7	1	0	0	0
3	4	2	0	0	0
3	6	1	0	0	0
4	5	1	0	0	0
4	24	1	0	0	0
5	25	1	0	0	0
6	8	2	0	0	0
6	12	1	0	0	0

...

M END

> <Name>

1-1

> <Family>

A.1

> <IC50\_uM>

0.06

> <set>

1

\$\$\$\$

# JSON structured file

```
{
  "name": "1-1",
  "charge": null,
  "atoms": [
    {
      "idx": 1,
      "symbol": "C",
      "atomic_number": 6,
      "charge": 0,
      "x": 27.7051,
      "y": 22.0403,
      "z": 17.0243
    },
    {
      "idx": 2,
      "symbol": "N",
      "atomic_number": 7,
      "charge": 0,
      "x": 26.4399,
      "y": 22.0976,
      "z": 16.4318
    },
    ...],
  "bonds": [
    [1,19,1],
    [1,2,1],
    [1,5,2],
    [2,3,1],
    [2,7,1],
    ...],
  "properties": {
    "Family": "A.1",
    "IC50_uM": 0.06,
    "set": 1
  }
}
```

# CML/XML structured file

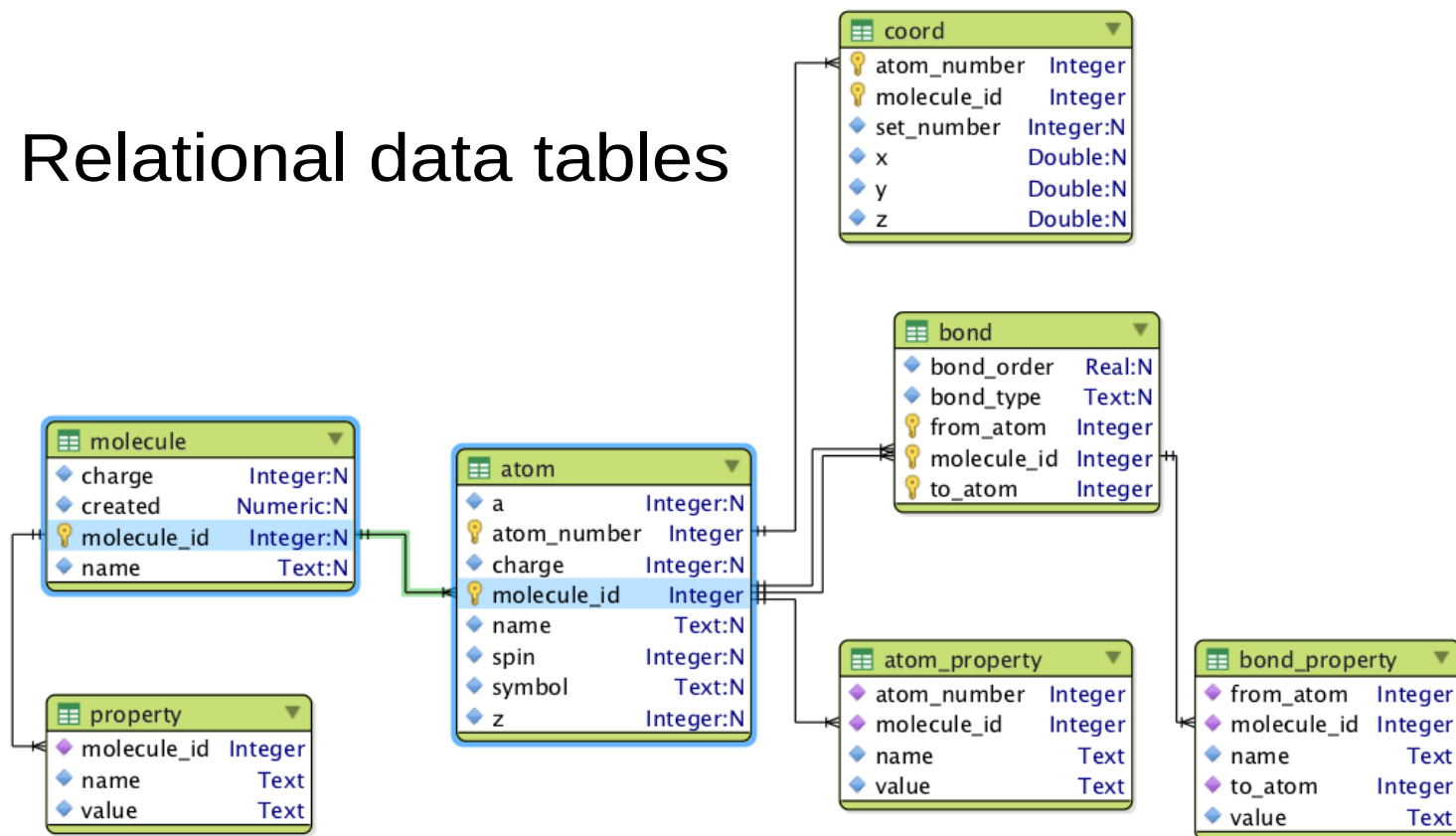
```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<molecule id="id1-1" xmlns="http://www.xml-cml.org/schema">
  <atomArray>
    <atom id="a1" elementType="C" x3="27.705100" y3="22.040300" z3="17.024300"/>
    <atom id="a2" elementType="N" x3="26.439900" y3="22.097600" z3="16.431800"/>
    <atom id="a3" elementType="C" x3="25.538100" y3="21.442400" z3="17.283100"/>
    <atom id="a4" elementType="C" x3="26.252500" y3="20.975300" z3="18.374800"/>
    <atom id="a5" elementType="C" x3="27.594300" y3="21.360800" z3="18.221800"/>
    <atom id="a6" elementType="C" x3="24.082100" y3="21.367000" z3="17.108200"/>
    ...
  </atomArray>

  <bondArray>
    <bond atomRefs2="a1 a2" order="1"/>
    <bond atomRefs2="a1 a5" order="2"/>
    <bond atomRefs2="a1 a19" order="1"/>
    <bond atomRefs2="a2 a3" order="1"/>
    <bond atomRefs2="a2 a7" order="1"/>
    <bond atomRefs2="a3 a4" order="2"/>
    ...
  </bondArray>

  <propertyList>
    <property title="Name">
      <scalar>1-1</scalar>
    </property>
    <property title="Family">
      <scalar>A.1</scalar>
    </property>
    <property title="IC50_uM">
      <scalar>0.06</scalar>
    </property>
    <property title="set">
      <scalar>1</scalar>
    </property>
  </propertyList>
</molecule>
```

# SQLite structured file .umdb

## Relational data tables





# What's in a SQLite file?

```
Select atom.atom_number, atom.symbol, coord.x, coord.y, coord.z, atom.charge
From atom Join coord Using (molecule_id, atom_number)
Where molecule_id=1 Order By atom.atom_number;
```

atom_number	symbol	x	y	z	charge
1	C	27.7051	22.0403	17.0243	0
2	N	26.4399	22.0976	16.4318	0
3	C	25.5381	21.4424	17.2831	0
4	C	26.2525	20.9753	18.3748	0
5	C	27.5943	21.3608	18.2218	0
6	C	24.0821	21.367	17.1082	0
7	C	26.1324	22.6824	15.1634	0
8	C	23.4105	22.2668	16.2675	0
9	C	22.022	22.2007	16.1197	0
10	C	21.2976	21.2409	16.8307	0
11	C	21.9509	20.3402	17.675	0
12	C	23.3399	20.4115	17.8175	0
13	C	26.3695	24.0457	14.9358	0
14	C	26.0627	24.6119	13.6959	0
15	C	25.5236	23.8179	12.691	0
16	C	25.2821	22.466	12.901	0
17	C	25.5848	21.8942	14.1391	0
18	F	25.2311	24.3643	11.5034	0
...					

# Viewing and editing SQLite files

- Command line (built-in, all platforms)
- DB Browser for SQLite (open source on github)
- SQLite Manager Firefox addin
- SQLite Administrator (freeware, windows)
- Toad v4.2+ (not Mac)

# SQLite Manager Firefox addin

Database Table Index View Trigger Tools Help

Directory (Select Profile Database) Go

Compound\_000000001\_000025000.umd

Structure Browse & Search Execute SQL DB Settings

Enter SQL

Select Data Manipulation

Run SQL Actions Last Error: not an error

molecule_id	name	value
12	MOL Chiral Flag	0
12	PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CID	12
12	PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CANONICALIZED	1
12	PUBCHEM_CACTVS_COMPLEXITY	104
12	PUBCHEM_CACTVS_HBOND_ACCEPTOR	4
12	PUBCHEM_CACTVS_HBOND_DONOR	4
12	PUBCHEM_CACTVS_ROTATABLE_BOND	0
12	PUBCHEM_CACTVS_SUBKEYS	AAADcYBgOAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAwAAAAAAAAABAAAAGgAACAAACASAkAAwBoAAAgCAACBCAAACA...
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_OPENEYE_NAME	benzene-1,2,3,5-tetrol
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_CAS_NAME	benzene-1,2,3,5-tetrol
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_NAME	benzene-1,2,3,5-tetrol
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_SYSTEMATIC_NAME	benzene-1,2,3,5-tetrol
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_TRADITIONAL_NAME	benzene-1,2,3,5-tetrol
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_INCHI	InChI=1S/C6H6O4/c7-3-1-4(8)(10)5(9)2-3/h1-2,7-10H
12	PUBCHEM_IUPAC_INCHIKEY	RDJUHLPADHNP-UHFFFAOYSA-N
12	PUBCHEM_XLOGP3	0.8
12	PUBCHEM_EXACT_MASS	142.026609
12	PUBCHEM_MOLECULAR_FORMULA	C6H6O4
12	PUBCHEM_MOLECULAR_WEIGHT	142.10944
12	PUBCHEM_OPENEYE_CAN_SMILES	C1=C(C=C(C(=C1O)O)O)O
12	PUBCHEM_OPENEYE_ISO_SMILES	C1=C(C=C(C(=C1O)O)O)O
12	PUBCHEM_CACTVS_TPSA	80.9
12	PUBCHEM_MONOISOTOPIC_WEIGHT	142.026609
12	PUBCHEM_TOTAL_CHARGE	0
12	PUBCHEM_HEAVY_ATOM_COUNT	10

# SQLite ([www.sqlite.org](http://www.sqlite.org))

- All the advantages of a flat-file; all the features of a relational database
- Self-contained, serverless, zero configuration
- Included in Python standard library
- Bindings for 43 languages
- Most widely deployed database engine in the world
- Public domain, free to use for any purpose

# How large are SQLite files?

Original SDF contains 467 molecules

```
$ babel cox2_3d.sdf cox2_3d.pdb
$ babel cox2_3d.sdf cox2_3d.cml
$ python obmol.py cox2_3d.sdf cox2_3d.umdb
```

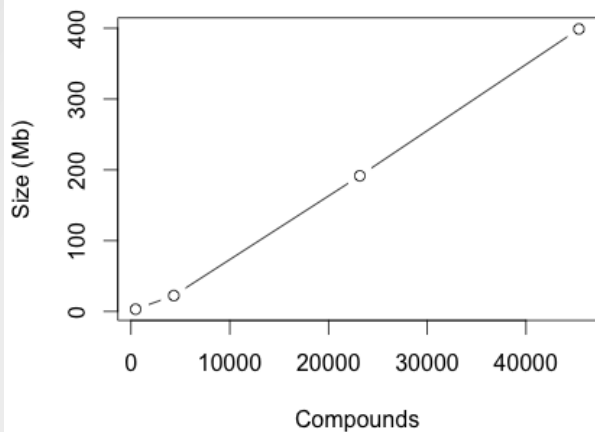
```
$ wc -c cox* | sort -n
1486991 cox2_3d.sdf
2419255 cox2_3d.cml
2444870 cox2_3d.js
2994176 cox2_3d.umdb
3115692 cox2_3d.pdb
```

```
$ gzip cox*; wc -c cox* | sort -n
247045 cox2_3d.sdf.gz (16%)
262544 cox2_3d.pdb.gz ( 8%)
273579 cox2_3d.js.gz (11%)
284060 cox2_3d.cml.gz (11%)
1293529 cox2_3d.umdb.gz (37%)
```

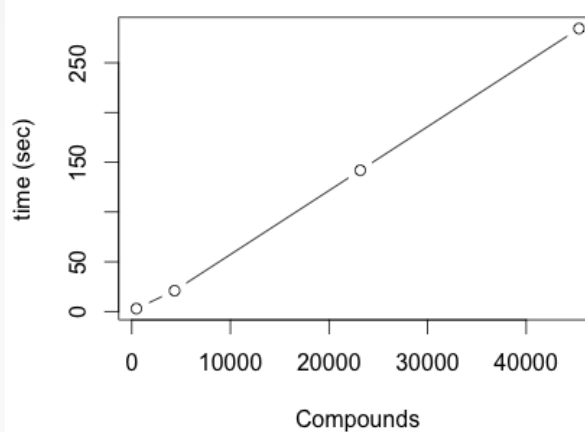
Maximum size allowed by filesystem

# How do SQLite files scale?

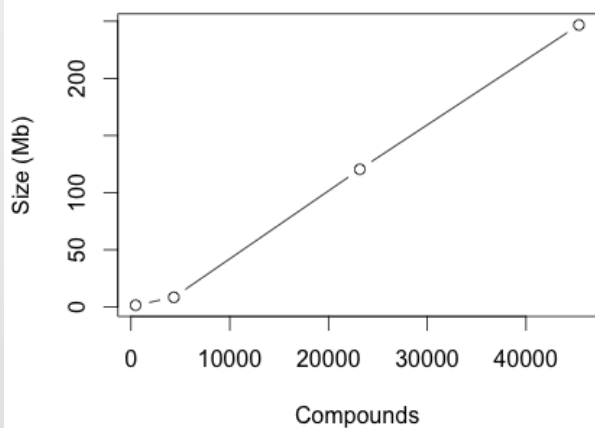
umdb size



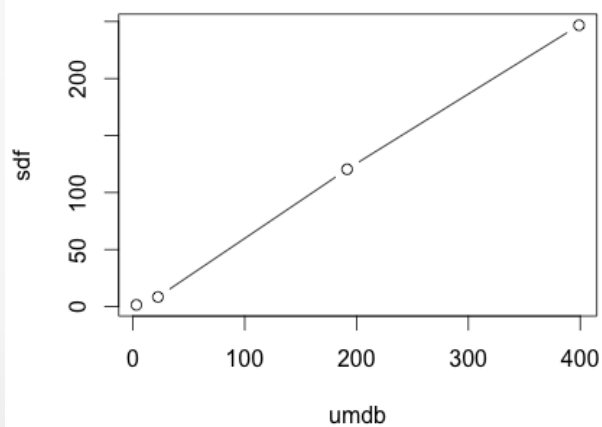
umdb create time



SDF size



File size



cox2	467
cas	4337
pubchem	23170
pubchem	45353

# How efficient is using SQLite files?

Compute center of mass for 467 molecules

OpenBabel python vs. SQLite

```
$ time python cm.py
```

```
...  
14-15 397.4194432 24.5140548807 22.1725456909 15.9736236732  
14-16 412.88598 24.5963886245 22.3002506939 15.8502371715  
14-17 413.87404 24.5813303532 22.2904584772 15.8464177326  
7-39 328.3607232 23.7537457692 21.924262208 15.9951401499
```

```
real    0m0.842s  
user    0m0.811s  
sys     0m0.026s
```

```
$ time python cm-select.py
```

```
...  
14-15 397.4194432 24.5140548807 22.1725456909 15.9736236732  
14-16 412.88598 24.5963886245 22.3002506939 15.8502371715  
14-17 413.87404 24.5813303532 22.2904584772 15.8464177326  
7-39 328.3607232 23.7537457692 21.924262208 15.9951401499
```

```
real    0m0.166s  
user    0m0.136s  
sys     0m0.027s
```

# SQLite is *fast* random access file

Any table can be indexed for fast access

Select data for first molecule

```
sqlite> select molecule_id,name,value from property  
       where name in ('PUBCHEM_IUPAC_CAS_NAME', 'PUBCHEM_IUPAC_INCHI') And molecule_id=1;
```

```
molecule_id|name|value  
1|PUBCHEM_IUPAC_CAS_NAME|3-acetyloxy-4-(trimethylammonio)butanoate  
1|PUBCHEM_IUPAC_INCHI|InChI=1S/C9H17NO4/c1-7(11)14-8(5-9(12)13)6-10(2,3)4/h8H,5-6H2,1-4H3  
Run Time: real 0.001 user 0.000293 sys 0.000087
```

Select data for molecule 20000

```
sqlite> select molecule_id,name,value from property  
       where name in ('PUBCHEM_IUPAC_CAS_NAME', 'PUBCHEM_IUPAC_INCHI') And molecule_id=20000;
```

```
molecule_id|name|value  
20000|PUBCHEM_IUPAC_CAS_NAME|2-thiocyanatoacetic acid butyl ester  
20000|PUBCHEM_IUPAC_INCHI|InChI=1S/C7H11NO2S/c1-2-3-4-10-7(9)5-11-6-8/h2-5H2,1H3  
Run Time: real 0.000 user 0.000279 sys 0.000089
```



# Create SQLite .umdb files

Row by row, table by table taking data from anywhere

```
Insert into molecule (name, charge, created) Values ('aspirin', 0, datetime());  
Insert Into atom (molecule_id, atom_number, z) Values (1,1,6),(1,2,6),(1,3,7);  
Insert Into coord (molecule_id, atom_number, x, y, z) Values (1,1,0.0,0.0,0.0);  
...
```

467 molecules; python program using OpenBabel

```
$ time python obmol.py cox2_3d.sdf cox2_3d.umdb
```

```
real 0m2.854s  
user 0m2.252s  
sys 0m0.400s
```

# Update SQLite .umdb files

```
sqlite> .timer on
sqlite> .mode csv
sqlite> .import newprop.csv newprop

sqlite> Insert Into property (molecule_id,name,value)
  Select molecule_id,'gnova_glogp',gnova_glogp From molecule
  Join newprop On (molecule.name=newprop.pubchem_id) ;
Run Time: real 0.807 user 0.283474 sys 0.469584

sqlite> Insert Into property (molecule_id,name,value)
  Select molecule_id,'gnova_tpsa',gnova_tpsa From molecule
  Join newprop On (molecule.name=newprop.pubchem_id) ;
Run Time: real 0.830 user 0.296428 sys 0.481289

sqlite> drop table newprop;
Run Time: real 0.038 user 0.006310 sys 0.021853

$ head newprop.csv
pubchem_id,gnova_glogp,gnova_tpsa
384,0.6933,86.63
385,1.1061,74.6
391,3.7655,132.91
399,-0.2772,111.9
409,1.8197,42.32
413,1.3615,41.99
416,-1.7999,149.65
420,7.3887,20.23
422,-3.3761,194.79
```

# Using .umdb files in programs

- Compared to traditional object-oriented C++ or python
- Replacing object iterators with SQL select
- Replacing entire program with SQL computation

# Structured data in programs

```
class OBAPI OBMol: public OBBase
{
protected:
    int                _flags;           //!< bitfield of flags
    bool               _autoPartialCharge; //!< Assign partial charges
    bool               _autoFormalCharge; //!< Assign formal charges
    std::string         _title;          //!< Molecule title
    std::vector<OBAtom*> _vatom;          //!< vector of atoms
    std::vector<OBAtom*> _atomIds;        //!< vector of atoms indexed by id
    std::vector<OBBond*> _vbond;          //!< vector of bonds
    std::vector<OBBond*> _bondIds;        //!< vector of bonds
    unsigned short int  _dimension;      //!< Dimensionality of coordinates
    int                 _totalCharge;    //!< Total charge on the molecule
    unsigned int         _totalSpin;     //!< Total spin on the molecule
    double               *_c;            //!< coordinate array
    std::vector<double*> _vconf;         //!< vector of conformers
    double               _energy;        //!< heat of formation
    unsigned int         _natoms;        //!< Number of atoms
    unsigned int         _nbonds;        //!< Number of bonds
    std::vector<OBResidue*> _residue;    //!< Residue information (if applicable)
    std::vector<OBInternalCoord*> _internals; //!< Internal Coordinates (if applicable)
    ...
}
```

# Read text file into program objects

```
# compute center of mass

import openbabel

mol = openbabel.OBMol()
conv = openbabel.OBConversion()
conv.SetInFormat("sdf")

notatend = conv.ReadFile(mol,"cox2_3d.sdf")
while notatend:
    total_mass = 0.0
    cm_x = 0.0
    cm_y = 0.0
    cm_z = 0.0
    for atom in openbabel.OBMolAtomIter(mol):
        m = atom.GetAtomicMass()
        total_mass += m
        cm_x += m * atom.GetX()
        cm_y += m * atom.GetY()
        cm_z += m * atom.GetZ()

    print mol.GetTitle(), total_mass, \
        cm_x/total_mass, cm_y/total_mass, cm_z/total_mass
    mol.Clear()
    notatend = conv.Read(mol)
```

# Read SQLite tables into program objects

Open the database file

Select all molecule, atoms, bonds, properties into program objects, corresponding to traditional reading of plain text file



```
Select molecule_id, molecule.name, atom.atom_number, atom.symbol, atom.charge, coord.x,
coord.y, coord.z, group_concat(to_atom) As bonds From molecule Join atom Using(molecule_id)
Join coord Using (molecule_id,atom_number) Join bond Using (molecule_id) Where
atom.atom_number=bond.from_atom Group by molecule_id, atom_number;
```

Iterate over objects to carry out program algorithms

```
total_mass = 0.0
cm_x = 0.0
cm_y = 0.0
cm_z = 0.0
for atom in openbabel.OBMolAtomIter(mol):
    m = atom.GetAtomicMass()
    total_mass += m
    cm_x += m * atom.GetX()
    cm_y += m * atom.GetY()
    cm_z += m * atom.GetZ()

print mol.GetTitle(), total_mass, mol.GetMolWt(), cm_x/total_mass,
cm_y/total_mass, cm_z/total_mass
```

# Use SQL *select* as object *iterators*

Connect database file replaces file open and read

Database tables replace program objects

SQL *select* replaces object iterator

```
import sqlite3

conn = sqlite3.connect('cox2_3d.umdb')
conn.row_factory = sqlite3.Row
curs = conn.cursor()
curs.execute("Attach 'element.sqlite' As element")
sql = "Select molecule.name, mass, coord.x, coord.y, coord.z From molecule \
Join atom Using (molecule_id)\
Join element.element Using(z) \
Join coord Using (molecule_id, atom_number) \
Where molecule_id = ?"
for imol in range(467):
    total_mass = 0.0
    cm_x = 0.0
    cm_y = 0.0
    cm_z = 0.0
    for row in curs.execute(sql, [imol+1]):
        name = row['name']
        m = row['mass']
        total_mass += m
        cm_x += m * row['x']
        cm_y += m * row['y']
        cm_z += m * row['z']

    print name, total_mass, cm_x/total_mass, cm_y/total_mass, cm_z/total_mass
```

# Using SQL for entire computation

## Compute center of mass for 467 molecules using SQL

```
Attach "element.sqlite" As element;  
Select molecule.name, sum(mass),  
       sum(mass*coord.x)/sum(mass),  
       sum(mass*coord.y)/sum(mass),  
       sum(mass*coord.z)/sum(mass)  
From molecule Join atom Using (molecule_id)  
       Join element.element Using(z)  
       Join coord Using (molecule_id,atom_number)  
Group By molecule_id;
```

```
$ time sqlite3 cox2_3d.umdb <cm.sql
```

```
real    0m0.058s  
user    0m0.046s  
sys     0m0.008s
```

```
$ sqlite3 element.sqlite  
sqlite> select z,symbol,mass from element limit 10;
```

z	symbol	mass
1	H	1.00794
2	He	4.002602
3	Li	6.941
4	Be	9.012182
5	B	10.811
6	C	12.0107
7	N	14.0067
8	O	15.9994
9	F	18.9984032
10	Ne	20.1797



# How efficient can SQLite be?

Compute center of mass for 467 molecules

OpenBabel python vs. SQLite

```
$ time python cm.py
```

```
real    0m0.842s
user    0m0.811s
sys     0m0.026s
```

```
$ time python cm-select.py
```

```
real    0m0.166s
user    0m0.136s
sys     0m0.027s
```

```
$ time sqlite3 cox2_3d.umdbs <cm.sql
```

```
real    0m0.059s
user    0m0.047s
sys     0m0.008s
```

# Extending .umdb files

SQLite .umdb files can add new tables and relationships as well as update or add new data

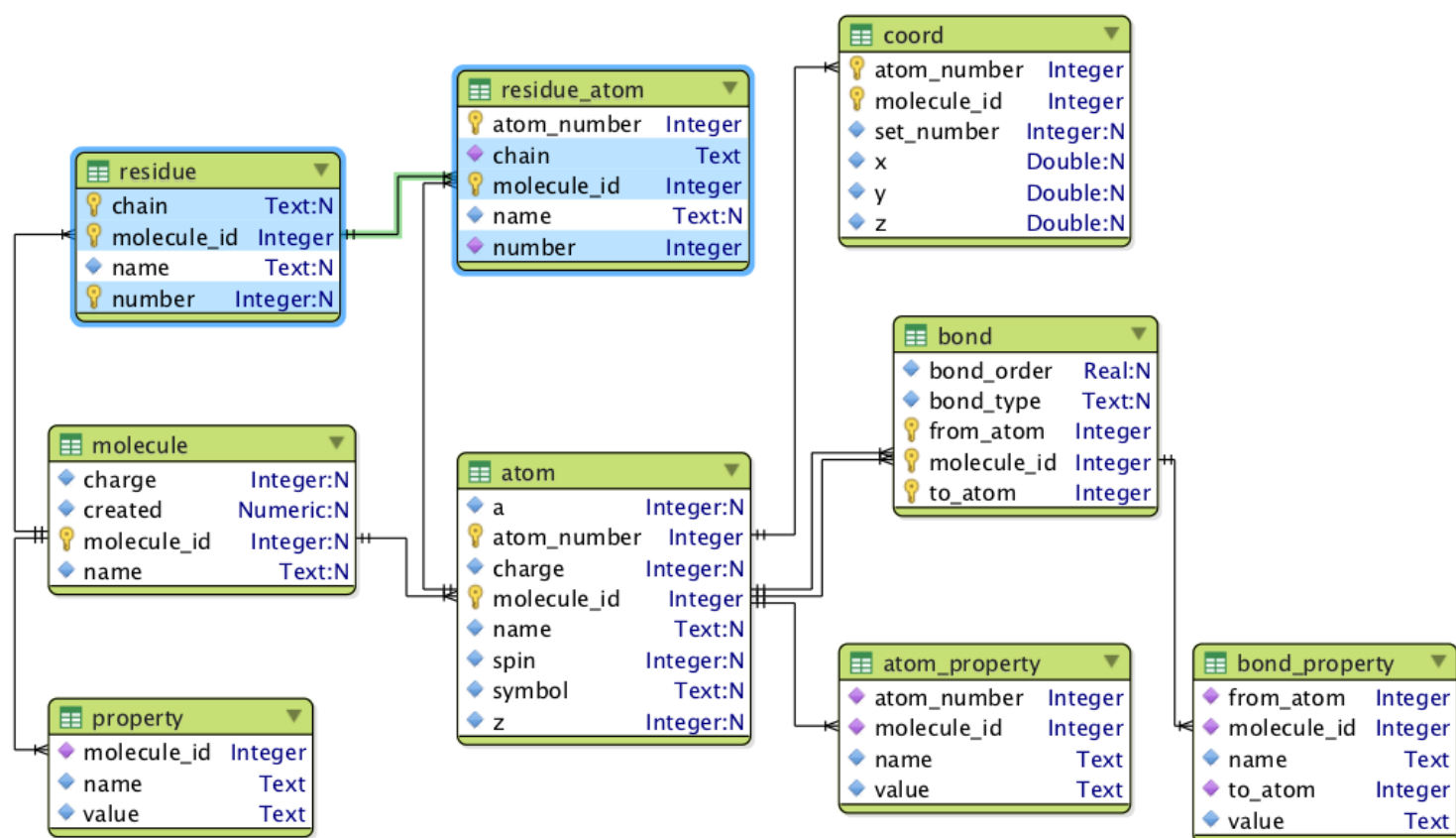
SD files v2000 limited to 999 atoms

- V3000 no atom limit, enhanced stereochemistry

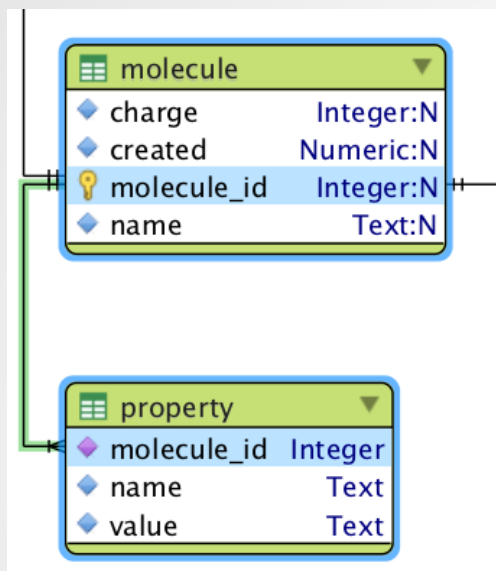
PDB files limited to 99999 atoms, 1-character chain, 3-character residue

- PDBML/XML, mmCIF eliminate column-width limits and add data definitions

# Extended schema for proteins



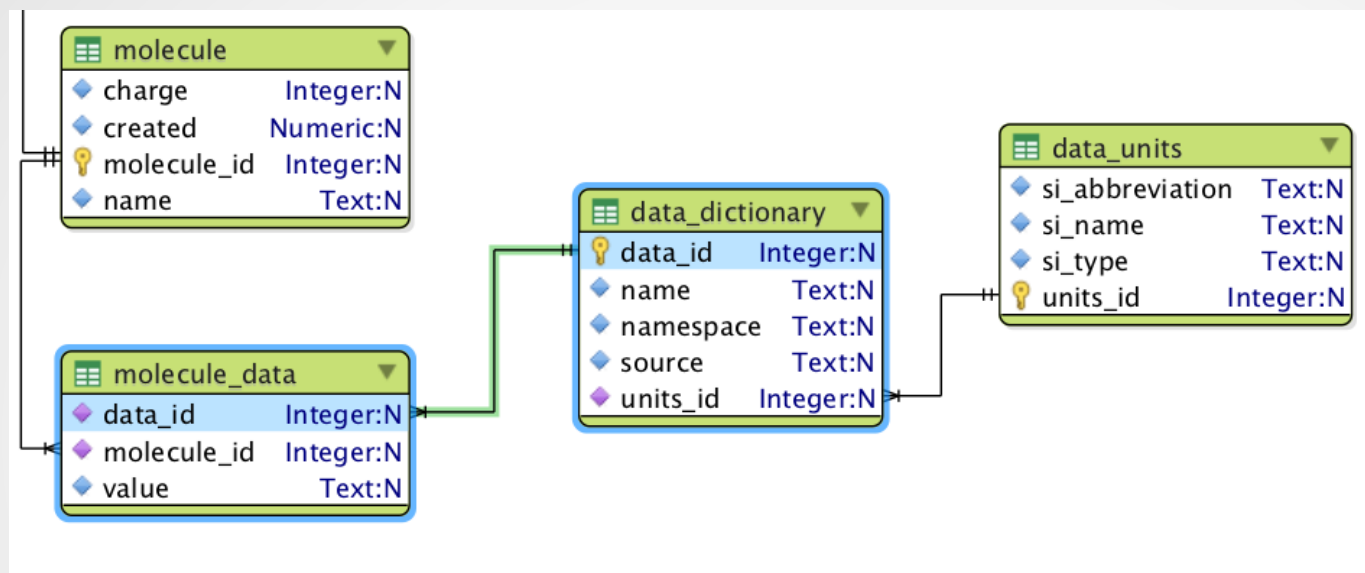
# Chemical and biological data



```
Select property.name, property.value  
From property Where molecule_id=1;
```

Name	value
Name	1-1
Family	A.1
IC50_uM	0.06
Set	1

# Extension for chemical/biological data



```
Select dict.name, data.value
From molecule_data As data Join data_dictionary dict Using (data_id)
Where molecule_id=1;
```

# CML data dictionary

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<dictionary xmlns="http://www.xml-cml.org/schema"
  xmlns:convention="http://www.xml-cml.org/convention/"
  xmlns:unit="http://www.xml-cml.org/unit/nonSi/"
  xmlns:unitType="http://www.xml-cml.org/unit/unitType/"
  xmlns:xhtml="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  convention="convention:dictionary"
  title="fundamental chemistry concepts"
  namespace="http://www.xml-cml.org/dictionary/dummy/"
  dictionaryPrefix="dummy">
  <description>
    <xhtml:p>
      This is an example dictionary
    </xhtml:p>
  </description>

  <entry id="moleccmass" term="Molecular Mass"
    dataType="xsd:double" unitType="unitType:amount" units="unit:dalton">
    <definition>
      <xhtml:p>
        The mass of one mole of a substance in unified atomic mass units (Dalton).
      </xhtml:p>
    </definition>
    <description>
      <xhtml:p>
        The molecular mass (m) of a substance is the mass of one molecule of that substance,
        in unified atomic mass unit(s) ...
      </xhtml:p>
    </description>
  </entry>

  <entry id="molarmass" term="Molar Mass"
    dataType="xsd:double" unitType="unitType:amount" units="unit:dalton">
    <definition>
      <xhtml:p>
        The mass per amount of substance.
      </xhtml:p>
    </definition>
    <description>
      <xhtml:p>
        Molar mass, symbol M, is a physical property characteristic of a given substance
        ...
      </xhtml:p>
    </description>
  </entry>
</dictionary>
```

# Summary

## Advantages

- Single-File documents
- Cross-platform
- Fast access
- SQL
- Easily updated
- Readily extensible and reducible
- Concurrent use by multiple processes
- Transactions
- Better applications; restart files

# Future work, other extensions

- umdb project at <http://github.com/tjod>
- PDBML/XML
  - “Third, the straightforward mapping of PDB data to relational database systems is retained.”
- mmCIF
  - flexible and extensible tag-value format for representing macromolecular structural data
- Extension tables
  - New types of data, for example spectroscopic data
  - Supramolecular assemblies