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Subject: Re: Converting COD2020 to SDF  
Posted by [nbehrnd](#) on Thu, 28 Jan 2021 14:36:13 GMT  
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In case only a few structures are needed, and you are comfortable with the terminal / CLI you might consider the following:

Each COD dataset has its COD ID, a number which may be seen in DataWarrior and which may be used to access the dataset e.g. on COD's text-based form  
<https://www.crystallography.net/cod/search.html>.

The entry «cif» on COD's listed results directs you to the structure's model data set, which you may store on your computer. Among the cod-tools (<https://wiki.crystallography.net/cod-tools/>) which you may obtain as an archive, or as a bundle package (e.g., Linux Debian, or Ubuntu) is the tool `codcif2sdf` for the CLI / terminal, which offers the conversion of COD's .cif into the .sdf file. To run successfully, you need OpenBabel which equally is freely available.

The output may be redirected into a permanent record, e.g. calling

```
codcif2sdf 1505213.cif > example.sdf
```

Both a COD cif as well its conversion into the .sdf of a typical entry are attached below.

In the past, the conversion a COD .cif into a .sdf only with OpenBabel often was not as good as with `codcif2sdf`. Alternatively, use a visual program capable to read and write both file formats (e.g., Jmol, or CCDC's Mercury)

Norwid

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### File Attachments

- 1) [1505213.cif](#), downloaded 597 times
  - 2) [example.sdf](#), downloaded 602 times
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