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Subject: Re: Converting COD2020 to SDF  
Posted by [nbehrnd](#) on Thu, 28 Jan 2021 21:56:31 GMT  
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Possibly `codcif2sdf` is part of the tools used for at least two reasons: Using only Openbabel (including release 3.1.0) would not retain the bibliographic information in the `.sdf` written which show up in DW's display.

An other reason is sometimes both crystallographic motif as well as symmetry of the unit cell are needed to complete the molecule's appearance as one would draw it in a notebook. By choice of the unit cell this may look like the molecule were broken. And it is the reconstruction of intramolecular atom connectivity where OpenBabel may more frequently encounter problems, than `codcif2sdf`. As an illustration, I attach both COD's `.cif` about a simple triazine, as well as the rewritten form as `.sdf`, once by OpenBabel, once by `codcif2sdf`.

Once the individual entries are rewritten for the organic chemist's eye, they may be stacked into a `.sdf` of multiple models and read as-such by DataWarrior. Possibly Thomas or/and the maintainer's of COD developed some template scripts to automate the whole process including formatting, and checks for plausibility and consistency. Given the scope and coverage of COD and TCOD often complementary to the ones e.g., by CCDC and ICSD, additional mirrors most likely are welcomed enthusiastically.

Norwid

TCOD, the sibling of COD mentioned: <https://www.crystallography.net/tcod/>

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### File Attachments

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- 1) [7050214.cif](#), downloaded 405 times
  - 2) [triazene\\_obabel.sdf](#), downloaded 409 times
  - 3) [triazene\\_cod.sdf](#), downloaded 410 times
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