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Subject: Find & Replace or alternative for stereoisomers

Posted by [Paul](#) on Mon, 29 Aug 2022 17:55:59 GMT

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Hello All

I would like to invert the configuration of all asymmetric carbon atoms (sp<sup>3</sup>) in a data set.

I have made many attempts using Find & Replace, but only succeed when exact carbon skeletons are supplied.

For example, I can convert 3,3,4(S)-trimethylhexane to 3,3,4(R)-trimethylhexane, but I cannot convert all structures with that common sub-structure to the inverted configuration for higher alkanes.

It seemed to me that the Query Feature Dialog would be appropriate for this use. The dialog is accessible (using the "q" key on hovering on an atom/bond) in the Find This structure editor window. However, the query feature only produces the "unknown" response in the replace with structure editor window.

Ultimately, I would like to generate a specific molecular representation for every stereoisomer, for each substance with 1 or more asymmetric carbon atoms in a data set.

So far, I have accomplished this by using smiles with @/@@ notation in Excel spreadsheets (this approach is somewhat doable in DataWarrior for simple cases, but much easier in Excel with more than 1 asymmetric C-atom. The method quickly goes from clunky to prohibitive as molecular complexity/number of asymmetric C-atoms increases.

Is this something for DataWarrior is suited?

I've attached a DWAR for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>20</sub> compounds with no racemates, should anyone want to use it for an example.

Thanks,

Paul

#### File Attachments

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1) [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>20</sub>\\_no-racemates.dwar](#), downloaded 438 times

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Subject: Re: Find & Replace or alternative for stereoisomers

Posted by [thomas](#) on Tue, 30 Aug 2022 19:29:16 GMT

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Hi Paul,

this is an unusual request, which you cannot do in DataWarrior directly. However, based on your

idea to do text replacements in SMILES, you could run the following macro (copy the macro text below and select 'Macro->Paste Macro' in you open DataWarrior window. The run the macro with 'Macro->Run Macro->Invert Stereo Centers):

```
<macro name="Invert Stereo Centers">
<task name="addSmilesCodes">
structureColumn=Structure
</task>
<task name="findAndReplace">
isStructure=false
column=Smiles
what=@ @
with=##
</task>
<task name="findAndReplace">
isStructure=false
column=Smiles
what=@
with=@ @
</task>
<task name="findAndReplace">
isStructure=false
column=Smiles
what=##
with=@
</task>
<task name="addStructuresFromName">
useServer=false
column=Smiles
isSmarts=false
</task>
</macro>
```

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Subject: Re: Find & Replace or alternative for stereoisomers  
Posted by [Paul](#) on Wed, 31 Aug 2022 16:36:51 GMT  
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Thanks!

That works, and gave me an example to work from to add to my macro library.

Best Regards,

Paul